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.

Please note: The Dec. 21 Blugold FYI will be the last issue of the fall semester and will be published again on Jan. 11, 2022.

Important announcements

$70 million gift to Foundation puts Sonnentag Project on fast track
The UW-Eau Claire Foundation announced yesterday that UW-Eau Claire alumni John and Carolyn Sonnentag have committed a gift of cash and land valued at approximately $70 million for the construction of the County Materials Complex. The development, which will include the Sonnentag Event Center and the John and Carolyn Sonnentag Field House, is located on the banks of the Chippewa River in Eau Claire. The gift from the Sonnentags, one of the largest of its kind in state history, will solidify the event center that was first proposed in 2014. Learn more about the Sonnentag gift and project.

Additional appointments available for COVID-19 booster vaccines
Student Health Service (SHS) will provide additional COVID-19 booster vaccines by appointment for students, faculty and staff from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13, and Tuesday, Dec. 14. SHS will offer the Moderna vaccine. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized three vaccine boosters — Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson — and determined that it is safe for individuals to receive a vaccine booster or additional dose that is a different brand than the initial dose or doses. UW-Eau Claire students and employees can call SHS at 715-836-5360 with questions regarding eligibility or to schedule an appointment. Students also may book an
appointment via mySHS. Please remember to bring a record of previous vaccination or your vaccination card with you to the clinic.

**Dr. Louisa Rice appointed interim associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.**
Rice will play an integral role in the completion of the academic affairs strategic plan, and the implementation and assessment of it. [Read more about Rice’s appointment.]

**BluBox tokens available in Davies Center**
Free tokens for UW-Eau Claire’s BluBox reusable food container program now are available for faculty, staff and students by showing their Blugold ID at the former Printing Services area next to the Service Center in Davies Center. The BluBox Program began this week in Davies Center’s Marketplace and at Hilltop for the to-go program. The blue plastic clamshell containers will replace most single-use plastic or cardboard food containers, except for select prepackaged cold items. Students, faculty and staff will receive one free token to obtain their container. After use, individuals deposit the used containers in designated receptacles and take a new token for future use. See [more details](#) and a [video](#) about the BluBox Program.

**McNair Scholars Research Symposium is Dec. 9**
The remaining McNair Scholars Research Symposium will be from **5-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9**, in person and on Zoom. Scholars will present for seven to 10 minutes, followed by a short question and answer session. Limited seating will be available in Schneider 319 for those who attend in person. Those who prefer to join on Zoom may follow [this link](#) (meeting ID: 925 5835 6916; passcode: 012602). [Learn more about the symposium.]

**Consider supporting Campus Ambassadors’ community gift project**
Please consider supporting the Campus Ambassadors in their annual service project, “The Giving Tree,” by purchasing a gift for a child in the community. You may choose an “ornament” from the tree in the Flesch Family Welcome Center and begin to shop! Please bring unwrapped gifts to the Admissions front desk **on or before Friday, Dec. 10**. Cash donations also are welcome. [Learn more about The Giving Tree project.]

**December employee wellbeing newsletter now available**
Be sure to view the [December employee wellbeing newsletter](#), which contains a variety of wellness tips and resources, including details on the Gratitude Journal Challenge, DIY homemade gifts, fitness opportunities on campus, sign-up details for an employee self-defense class and more.

**Complete the University Bookstore survey by Dec. 15**
The University Bookstore, committed to driving student success and enhancing the campus experience, continuously strives to improve its services. The bookstore is seeking campus feedback and asks that faculty and staff take a moment [to fill out a survey](#) about their experiences by **Wednesday, Dec. 15**.

**Fall commencement to be in person Dec. 18**
The celebration of our fall 2021 graduates will be in person on **Saturday, Dec. 18**, with ceremonies at **9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Zorn Arena**. Graduates who choose not to attend in person will be given the option to submit their name for the virtual walk. And as always, the ceremonies will be livestreamed. Graduates who attend in person will be offered three guest tickets. Faculty and staff who would like to participate as name readers should contact commencement@uwec.edu. Learn more on the [commencement website](#).

**Updates on furniture purchases**
Due to long lead times, all furniture purchases for 2021-22 need to be submitted to Jennifer Lonsdorf by Jan. 28, 2022.

**Professional Development Committee seeks proposals for 2022 conference**
The 2022 University Staff Professional Development Conference is being planned for two days: **Wednesday, June 8**, which will be virtual, and **Thursday, June 9**, which will be in person at the UW-Eau Claire campus. This annual event is open to all UWEC employees, as well as external attendees from other UW System campuses, Wisconsin technical colleges and community partners. It is designed as a collaborative environment of networking and ongoing learning opportunities for employees who work outside the classroom. Sessions are selected to promote both professional and personal development for achieving work-life balance through enhanced skills, inspiring innovation/creative thinking and establishing goals to continuously improve the workplace. The committee appreciates your help in building a meaningful event with a variety of opportunities, and **currently is seeking session proposals** for a diverse body of topics between the two days. Visit our [website](#) for more information, and contact LIST.USC.PRODEV@uwec.edu with questions or suggestions.

**ASK Center has switched to new client ticketing system**
The Administrative Support and Knowledge (ASK) Center has joined the UW System and LTS in switching to a [new client ticketing solution](#). As a result, when you contact the ASK Center for business services or human resources-related issues, you will receive email responses from either BusSvcs-ServiceDesk@wisconsin.edu or HR-ServiceDesk@wisconsin.edu. **These are legitimate emails.** You can log an Alemba Service Manager (ASM) call on the [self-service portal](#), email us at BUSsupport@uwec.edu or HRsupport@uwec.edu, or contact the ASK Center and its various units as you have before by emailing askcenter@uwec.edu, calling 715-836-3131 or by stopping in person at Schofield 230. Thank you for your patience as we learn to navigate this new ticketing system.

**Universal Air Travel Plan (UATP) airfare updates**
Travelers who purchase airfare may discover that the ticket does not show up on their credit card statement. Upon review of the ticket invoice, the form of payment gives a clue as to why. If the form of payment starts with the letters “TP,” the airfare was automatically assigned to available UATP funds. The credit card was not charged; however, the funding that would have supported the airfare will be charged by UW System. Regardless of whether a U.S. Bank Corporate Travel card or a procurement travel (PT) card was used, UATP-funded airfare must be expensed through an expense reimbursement report. For further explanation, refer to [Unused](#).
Ticket Guide – UATP Cards and Expense a Ticket Paid for by UATP Card – UW Eau Claire. Contact the Firstsource Support Team at askcenter@uwec.edu or 715-836-3131 for assistance.

Blugold Dining news
- Dulany Inn. Faculty, staff and students are welcome to have lunch at the Dulany Inn from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday to try the fantastic menu created by campus executive chef Angel Alcantar. Rent out the Heritage Room for an elevated dining experience with no extra charge. Reservations are welcome, but not required; they can be made by calling 715-836-5261 or emailing dining@uwec.edu. Weekly menus can be found here.

Join educator lunch in CETL
Whether you are new to campus or not, bring your lunch to CETL in VLL 1142 from noon-12:50 p.m. for the remaining Thursdays this fall to meet other educators and build collaborations across campus.

Administrative Support Collaboration Group supports administrative professionals on campus
The Administrative Support Collaboration Group is for administrative professionals on campus (academic department associates, assistants, associates, coordinators, office managers and specialists). This group was created to increase communication and share information; discuss policies, procedures, ideas and changes; and share tips and tricks that relate to our positions. Meetings are scheduled monthly during the academic year. How to join: Go to teams.uwec.edu to download the application. Once you are logged in, click on Join or Create Team in the upper right. Use the search bar to look for UWEC-Administrative-Support. Coordinators will be notified once you have submitted a request to join, and we'll get you added!

Reminders: vaccination documentation and testing requirements
Employees are encouraged to get vaccinated and to upload their vaccine documentation (vaccine card, immunization record) through MyUWPortal. Follow the directions on this tip sheet to ensure your profile is updated. If you are not vaccinated or have not uploaded your record, you will be required to take a weekly antigen test. Testing is offered in the Hilltop Lounge from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays. Blugolds can schedule a test online through uwec.vivi.healthcare and should remember to bring their Blugold ID to the appointment. Access the clinic through the west entrance of Hilltop and follow the signage. People who utilize off-campus antigen testing need to upload test results using this online form.

Save the date: CERCA 2022
CERCA 2022 will be April 25-29, 2022, on the third floor of Davies Center. We are pleased to return to an in-person format. Please keep your eyes open for more information from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs about the application process.

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.

Submit announcement

Awards and achievements

**Dr. Michael Axelrod**, professor of psychology and director of the Human Development Center, and co-author Dr. Angela Fontanini-Axelrod, director of Pupil Services for the Augusta Area School District, recently had their study, titled “Treating Functional Nonretentive Fecal Incontinence using a Comprehensive Treatment across Settings” published in the journal Clinical Practice in Pediatric Psychology.

**Dr. Josh Brown**, professor of German and linguistics, and alumni **Tristan Devick** and **Connor Zielinski** had their article “A Culturally Relevant Approach to Food Customs in the German Curriculum” published Nov. 29 in Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German journal. In the article, the authors share how language classrooms can be excellent sites for EDI learning and engagement.

**Dr. Dorothy Chan**, assistant professor of English, will have her latest book, “Babe,” featured in a book launch over Zoom at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9. Among the readers will be **Dr. José Felipe Alvergue**, associate professor of English and Latin American/Latinx studies. [Register here](#) for the Zoom event.

**Dr. Anne Cummings Hlas**, professor of languages; **Jesselyn Nadolny**, UW-Eau Claire student researcher; and **Dr. Christopher Hlas**, professor of mathematics, co-authored the chapter “Investigating Creativity in Online K-12 world language classrooms,” Chapter 8 in the book “Handbook of Research on Effective Online Language Teaching in a Disruptive Environment,” edited by J.W. LeLoup and P. Swanson and published by IGI Global; DOI: 10.4018/978-1-7998-7720-2. The work was funded by the Blugold Fellowship Program, and investigates creativity in the classroom during the pandemic.

**Dr. Harry Jol**, professor of geography and anthropology, co-authored a paper, titled “Influence of anthropogenic landscape modifications and infrastructure on the geological characteristics of liquefaction,” which was published with Frontiers Abroad colleagues Josh Borella (University of Canterbury), Mark Quigley (University of Melbourne), Moses Riley (Oberlin University), Sarah Trutner (Oberlin University), Max Borella (University of Canterbury), Sam Hampton (University of Canterbury) and Darrne Gravley (University of Canterbury).

**Dr. Doug Matthews**, professor of psychology, and UW-Eau Claire student **Bailey Imhoff** co-authored a paper, titled “Age modifies the effect of ethanol on behavior: Investigations in
adolescent, adult and aged rats,” which was published in the International Review of Neurobiology, Vol. 161, pages 251-275.

Dr. Quentin Vieregge, associate professor of English at UW-Eau Claire – Barron County, had his essay “Ink blog: Would Charlie Chaplin have been a TikToker?” published in the Nov. 30 issue of The Chronotype.

Submit award/achievement item

In memoriam

Condolences to the family and friends of Otis Franke. Franke, who served in a variety of facilities-related roles at UW-Eau Claire from 1964 until his retirement as director of Facilities Planning in 1994, passed away Nov. 16. View full obituary.


Condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Elmer Winters, professor emeritus of foundations of education. Winters, who served on the UW-Eau Claire faculty from 1967 until his retirement in 1992, passed away Nov. 17. View full obituary.

In the news

Robert Baca, professor of music and director of jazz studies; Nobuyoshi Yasuda, professor of music; Dr. Geoff Peterson, professor and chair of political science; Dr. Gary Schwartzhoff, professor emeritus of music; and Dr. Riley McGrath, director of Counseling Services, were guests of Wisconsin Public Radio’s “Spectrum West” Dec. 2. Learn more and listen.

Dr. Dorothy Chan, assistant professor of English, was featured in the Dec. 2 Chippewa Valley Writers Guild story “Dr. Dorothy Chan’s BABE: Queer Happiness & Luscious Intimacy Unfold,” which was written by UW-Eau Claire student Aja St. Germaine.

Billy Felz, interim vice chancellor for enrollment management, was quoted in the Nov. 30 Leader-Telegram article “Enrollment down again at UW-EC, UW-Stout, systemwide.”
Dr. Cheryl Jimenez-Frei, assistant professor of history and Latin American/Latinx studies, was interviewed for the Dec. 1 WEAU-TV story “New virtual exhibit shows public health crises’ impact on rural Wisconsin.”

Dr. Harry Jol, professor of geography and anthropology, was quoted in the Dec. 2 Leader-Telegram article “Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival returning to Eau Claire.”

Dr. Riley McGrath, director of Counseling Services, was interviewed for the Dec. 3 WQOW-TV story “UWEC earns $306K grant to support mental health outreach.”

Chancellor James Schmidt was quoted in the Nov. 30 Wispolitics.com article “MOBIlion Systems CEO Melissa Sherman joins board.”

The $70 million gift by UW-Eau Claire alumni John and Carolyn Sonnentag, announced yesterday, was featured in the following news coverage: “Sonnentags raise gift to $70M to put UW-EC event center on fast track,” Leader-Telegram, Dec. 6; “70 million dollar gift helps UW-Eau Claire with Sonnentag Project,” and “Groundbreaking for Sonnentag Center slated for April” and WQOW-TV, Dec. 6; “Construction on Sonnentag Event Center to begin in spring 2022, open in 2024,” WEAU-TV, Dec. 6; and “RECORD-SETTING GIFT: Sonnentags Will Donate $70M for UWEC Event Facility,” Volume One, Dec. 6.

Dr. Todd Wellnitz, professor of biology, was featured in the article “Thursdays at U dives into ‘Microplastics in Northern Lakes’” in the Nov. 29 issue of The Chronotype.

Submit news item

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.

Submit position update item

Campus news and features

- Sonnentags' $70 million gift to UW-Eau Claire Foundation puts County Materials Complex on fast track
- Dr. Louisa Rice appointed interim associate vice chancellor for academic affairs
Six Blugolds recognized with alumni awards
Explorer, mountaineer Lonnie Dupre to give multimedia presentation highlighting arctic expeditions
Blugold combines love of English and math during her college studies
UW-Eau Claire increases investment and programming to prevent suicide
COB graduating senior excels in academics with a smile
New grad 'pays it forward,' works to make computer science field more equitable and inclusive
47th UW-Eau Claire Holiday Concert set for Dec. 5

Read/view more campus news and features

Professional development

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) professional development
- Teaching and instructional technology Q&A and learning sessions (virtual): View sessions.
- Transparent Design Framework Q&A sessions (virtual) and workshops (in person and virtual): View sessions. View workshops.
- Digital Transformation in Teaching and Learning Course: This professional development opportunity is an online, asynchronous course to showcase planning, designing and teaching with technology. The course, which will continue through the fall 2021 semester, currently is open with rolling registration for those looking to re-imagine a spring 2022 course. Learn more and register.
- Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022 (Two EDI Tier 2 opportunities)
  - Including Race and Racism in Your Courses: Why It Matters and How to Do It: 9 a.m.-noon. Learn more and register.
  - Inclusive Dialogues: Building Capacity to Respond: 1-3 p.m. Learn more and register.
  - Lunch provided if you attend one or both sessions.
- Summer Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant: This program supports educator/student collaborative projects for development and assessment of new curriculum (courses or other educational experiences). Development of curriculum will occur during the summer in collaboration with 1-2 students and the implementation and assessment will occur during the following academic year. Awards include an educator stipend ($2,300), up to two student stipends ($2,300 each), and up to $600 for materials. Applications are due Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022. Learn more.

Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) professional development for faculty and staff
View and register for sessions and groups.
Coming up:
• **Campus Connect: Suicide Awareness and Intervention**: Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1-3 p.m.
• **Sexual Assault Bystander Intervention Training**: Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1-3 p.m.
• **Including Race and Racism in Your Courses: Why It Matters and How to Do It**: Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, 9 a.m.-noon
• **Inclusive Dialogues: Building Capacity to Respond**: Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, 1-3 p.m.
• **Identity, Privilege and Oppression**: Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022, 1-2:30 p.m.
• **Reading Group: “Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do”**: Wednesdays, Jan. 19, Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, 2022, noon-1 p.m.
• **EDI Reading and Video Clip Dialogue Group: Whiteness, Allyship, and Taking Action**: Fridays, Jan. 21, Jan. 28 and Feb. 4, 2022, 10-11 a.m.

Submit professional development item

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**Blugold FYI: Dec. 14, 2021**

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**Important announcements**

**Commencement set for Dec. 18**
Commencement exercises for 737 UW-Eau Claire students will be Saturday, Dec. 18, in Zorn Arena. Candidates from the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences will receive degrees during a 9 a.m. ceremony. Candidates from the College of Business and the College of Education and Human Sciences will receive degrees during a 1 p.m. ceremony. Those not able to attend in person can watch a livestream of the ceremonies. [See full story](#).

**Finance and Administration to host town hall celebration Dec. 20**
The Finance and Administration division will host a town hall celebration from **2-3:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20**, in Schofield Auditorium. Everyone is invited to join the gathering during which division leaders will share what has been achieved in 2021 and will look ahead to 2022. Refreshments will be provided, and festive attire is welcome but not required. Those who are not able to attend the gathering in person may [join the Zoom livestream](#). If you have questions
for Finance and Administration leadership, please submit them in advance or during the town hall’s Q&A session.

Thank you for Giving Tuesday success!
Tremendous thanks to all the faculty and staff who helped the UW-Eau Claire Foundation have the most successful Giving Tuesday ever. The Foundation received more than $189,000 in gifts, including those from 82 faculty and staff. The $2,000 matching-gift challenge for university employees was fulfilled in only 20 minutes. Thank you for all the ways you support this university and go beyond the call of duty.

Foundation 2021 year-end information
The Foundation office in the Flesch Family Welcome Center will be open to receive year-end gifts from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 27-30. Gifts must be received online by 11:59 p.m. CST on Dec. 31 to be processed as 2021 donations.

Call for nominations for Provost’s Honors Symposium
Faculty and staff are invited to nominate outstanding student research, scholarship or creative activity by Friday, Feb. 25, 2022, for presentation at the 12th Annual Provost’s Honors Symposium on Friday, April 29, 2022. PHS is a professional-style conference where selected students from any major on campus have the chance to present exceptional work. In 2022, PHS will return to a live, face-to-face format. Visit the Provost’s Honors Symposium website for updates, and submit a nomination via eform.

Blugold Dining news
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• “Red-eye” event. A “Red-eye” event is planned for 6-10 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 14 and 15, in The Cabin. Free drip coffee and dollar donuts will be available for students as a boost during finals week.

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**UW-Eau Claire updates regarding COVID-19**
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Submit announcement

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**Awards and achievements**

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. Sylviana Amethyst**, mathematics, “Directed Reading: Excluded”; **Alfred Beseler**, Dean of Students office, “Man Enough Book Group”; **Dr. Mary Canales**, nursing, “EDI Quad Leader”; **Roberta Christensen**, University Centers, “Replacing and Installing New Menstrual Product Dispensaries”; **Dr. Tomomi Kakegawa**, languages, “Learning to Talk about EDI in Japanese”; **Dr. Li Yan**, economics, “Un-Modeling Minority Myth of Asian Americans”; **Jill Markgraf**, McIntyre

**Leslie Huntington**, head softball coach, was inducted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame Dec. 10 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Learn more about Huntington’s honor.


**Dr. Nora Mitchell**, assistant professor of biology, co-authored a paper titled “Standing variation rather than recent adaptive introgression probably underlies differentiation of the texanus subspecies of Helianthus annuus,” which was published in the December 2021 special issue of Molecular Ecology, titled “Whole Genome Sequencing in Molecular Ecology.”

**Patti See**, academic advisor in the Advising, Retention and Career Center/senior lecturer in women’s, gender and sexuality studies, had her column “The Stories This Table Could Tell” published in the Dec. 3 Leader-Telegram and in the Dec. 6 issue of The Country Today.

**Vicky Thomas**, director of Services for Students with Disabilities; Mari Magler, director of UW-Madison’s Office for Students with Disabilities; and Dr. John Achter, student behavioral health coordinator for the UW System, presented the State Disability Services Annual Report to the Board of Regents Education Committee on Dec. 9.

Submit award/achievement item

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**In memoriam**

Condolences to the family and friends of Richard Joslin, professor emeritus of art. Joslin, who served on the art faculty at UW-Eau Claire from 1965 until his retirement in 1992, passed away Nov. 23. View full obituary.

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**In the news**
Dr. Winnifred Bryant, professor and chair of the biology department, and Dr. Josh Brown, professor of German and linguistics, and affiliate faculty in women’s, gender and sexuality studies, were featured in the Dec. 9 Volume One article “Leading the fight for fairness.”

Dr. Kim Frodl, medical director for Student Health Service, was quoted in the Dec. 8 Leader-Telegram article “Citing campus outbreaks elsewhere, universities urge students to get flu vaccine.”

B.J. Hollars, associate professor of English, was quoted in the Dec. 9 Leader-Telgram article “Midwest Artist Academy calls for applicants.” He also was a guest on Wisconsin Public Radio’s “Spectrum West” Dec. 9 to discuss the Chippewa Valley Writers Guild’s “Sound & Stories: Joy to the Word” event Dec. 16 at Pablo Center. Learn more and listen.

Leslie Huntington, head softball coach, was featured in the Dec. 12 WQOW-TV story “UWEC's Huntington inducted into NFCA Hall of Fame.”

Dr. Crispin Pierce, professor of public health and environmental studies, and research students Laura Horstman and Logan Anderson were interviewed for the Dec. 8 WEAU-TV story “COVID-19 wastewater screening project underway at UWEC.”

Dan Schumacher, director of athletics, was quoted in the Dec. 7 Leader-Telegram article “New event center the latest milestone for UW-Eau Claire athletics.”

Kimera Way, president of the UW-Eau Claire Foundation, was quoted in the Dec. 7 Spectrum News 1 article “UW-Eau Claire: $70 million gift helps university, community.”

Submit news item

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.

University Police welcomes two new police officers, Patrick Frickenstein and Matthew McHugh, to its team. Both officers most recently worked at the Chippewa County Sheriff’s Department, where Frickenstein was a jail sergeant and McHugh served as a jail officer. Welcome, Patrick and Matthew!
Courtney Pearson has joined the Career Services (Advising, Retention and Career Center) staff as a career counselor. Prior to this, she worked as a career counselor in Career Services at the UW-Madison College of Education and at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Printing Services plans to hire a digital print operator, with a start date in early January 2022. Please help spread the word as the department seeks to attract a diverse and qualified applicant pool. See position details and application information.

The Center for International Education is happy to welcome Mikaela Reid to its staff. Reid replaces Storm Jacko, who departed in August 2021 for graduate school. She comes to UW-Eau Claire from the Northern Arizona University, where she worked as a senior study abroad advisor for six years and completed her M.Ed. in bilingual multicultural education. Reid will work with study abroad programs in Spain, Latin American, Africa and the Middle East.

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**Campus news and features**

- [After 22 years of leadership, Charles Vue to retire in 2022](#)
- [Foster Gallery presents BFA senior exhibition ‘In Tune’](#)
- [High-impact experiences on campus and in world help prepare Blugold for future success](#)
- [Social work graduate pursues career helping Wisconsin youth](#)
- [Blugolds who found love as students now find joy in making UW-Eau Claire dream come true](#)
- [Outside-the-classroom experiences help prepare nursing grad for future success](#)
- [Fall commencement set for Dec. 18 at UW-Eau Claire](#)
- [Leaning into leadership and generosity through music and math: Leah Koepke](#)

Read/view more campus news and features

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**Professional development**

**January professional and personal development for faculty and staff**

- **Leading at the Speed of Trust:** Join your colleagues in discovering what it means to lead at the speed of trust. The program, on **Wednesday Jan. 5, 2022**, from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. via MS Teams, is a one-day, interactive presentation on building and retaining trust with staff. [Register here](#).

- **Winterim Learning Camp:** Did you miss a course during fall, or would you like to join a previously offered course? Join us for the Winterim Learning Camp. All employees are
welcome to take as many classes as they’d like during this weeklong event. Be sure to register for each course. The schedule is:

- Monday, Jan. 10, 2022: Hire to Retire, 1-4 p.m.
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- **Leaders Book Club**: The spring Leaders Book Club will feature the book “Remote Leadership: Successfully Leading Work-From-Anywhere and Hybrid Teams.” Sessions will be Mondays, Jan. 24, Feb. 28 and March 28, 2022, from noon-12:50 p.m. via MS Teams. This book provides leaders with the critical tools to meet the leadership imperative for the new era of remote work. What was previously an occasional, temporary or limited aspect of the workplace, with limited impact on leaders, is now an increasingly likely reality of organizational life for the future. Learn more and register by Jan. 1, 2022.

- **Leadership in the New Normal**: This self-paced, 30-minute Canvas course is available for all management levels as an exploration of the new normal. From the perspective of UW-Eau Claire and UW System, it shares ways to support the well-being of all employees. Click here to access the course.

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**Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) professional development**

- **Teaching and instructional technology Q&A and learning sessions (virtual)**: View sessions.
- **Transparent Design Framework Q&A sessions (virtual) and workshops (in person and virtual)**: View sessions, View workshops.
- **Digital Transformation in Teaching and Learning Course**: This professional development opportunity is an online, asynchronous course to showcase planning, designing and teaching with technology. The course, which will continue through the fall 2021 semester, currently is open with rolling registration for those looking to re-imagine a spring 2022 course. Learn more and register.
- **Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022 (Two EDI Tier 2 opportunities)**
  - Including Race and Racism in Your Courses: Why It Matters and How to Do It: 9 a.m.-noon. Learn more and register.
  - Inclusive Dialogues: Building Capacity to Respond: 1-3 p.m. Learn more and register.
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educator stipend ($2,300), up to two student stipends ($2,300 each), and up to $600 for materials. Applications are due Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022. Learn more.

Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) professional development for faculty and staff
View and register for sessions and groups.

Coming up:
• Including Race and Racism in Your Courses: Why It Matters and How to Do It: Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, 9 a.m.-noon
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• Reading Group: “Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do”: Wednesdays, Jan. 19, Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, 2022, noon-1 p.m.
• EDI Reading and Video Clip Dialogue Group: Whiteness, Allyship, and Taking Action: Fridays, Jan. 21, Jan. 28 and Feb. 4, 2022, 10-11 a.m.

Submit professional development item

Blugold FYI: Dec. 21, 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.

Please note: This is the last issue of Blugold FYI for the fall semester. It will be published again on Jan. 11, 2022. Happy holidays, everybody!

Important announcements

Foundation 2021 year-end information
The Foundation office in the Flesch Family Welcome Center will be open to receive year-end gifts from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 27-30. Gifts must be received online by 11:59 p.m. CST on Dec. 31 to be processed as 2021 donations.

COVID-19 testing site closed on campus from Dec. 23-Jan. 2
The Hilltop Lounge COVID-19 antigen testing site will be closed starting Thursday, Dec. 23, and will reopen on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022. Employees are encouraged to get vaccinated and to upload their vaccine documentation (vaccine card, immunization record) through MyUWPortal. Follow the directions on this tip sheet to ensure your profile is updated. If you are not vaccinated or have not uploaded your record, you will be required to take a weekly antigen test. During Winterim, Jan. 3-30, testing will be offered in the Hilltop Lounge from 7:30 a.m.-1
p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Blugolds can schedule a test online through uwec.vivi.healthcare and should remember to bring their Blugold ID to the appointment. Access the clinic through the west entrance of Hilltop and follow the signage. People who utilize off-campus antigen testing need to upload test results using this online form.

**New resource for youth activities and programs**
The Youth Protection Program is a new, central resource for anyone offering activities to youth under 18 years of age. Staff can help you register your activity with Risk Management; understand UW System and university expectations, policies and compliance; and implement best practices for youth protection. Learn more and register your youth activity at uwec.ly/youth.

**Call for nominations for Provost’s Honors Symposium**
Faculty and staff are invited to nominate outstanding student research, scholarship or creative activity by Friday, Feb. 25, 2022, for presentation at the 12th Annual Provost’s Honors Symposium on Friday, April 29, 2022. PHS is a professional-style conference where selected students from any major on campus have the chance to present exceptional work. In 2022, PHS will return to a live, face-to-face format. Visit the Provost’s Honors Symposium website for updates, and submit a nomination via e-form.

**Blugold Dining news**
Marketplace in Davies Center will be closed beginning Wednesday, Dec. 22, and will reopen Monday, Jan. 10, 2022. Hours will be 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Updates on furniture purchases**
Due to long lead times, all furniture purchases for 2021-22 need to be submitted to Jennifer Lonsdorf by Jan. 28, 2022.

**Professional Development Committee seeks proposals for 2022 conference**
The 2022 University Staff Professional Development Conference will be Wednesday, June 8, which will be virtual, and Thursday, June 9, which will be in person at the UW-Eau Claire campus. This annual event is open to all UWEC employees, as well as external attendees from other UW System campuses, Wisconsin technical colleges and community partners. It is designed as a collaborative environment of networking and ongoing learning opportunities for employees who work outside the classroom. Sessions are selected to promote both professional and personal development for achieving work-life balance through enhanced skills, inspiring innovation/creative thinking and establishing goals to continuously improve the workplace. The committee appreciates your help in building a meaningful event with a variety of opportunities, and is seeking session proposals for a diverse body of topics between the two days. Visit the Professional Development Conference website for more information, and contact LIST.USC.PRODEV@uwec.edu with questions or suggestions.

**ASK Center has switched to new client ticketing system**
The Administrative Support and Knowledge (ASK) Center has joined the UW System and LTS in switching to a client ticketing solution. As a result, when you contact the ASK Center for business services or human resources-related issues, you will receive email responses from either BusSvcs-ServiceDesk@wisconsin.edu or HR-ServiceDesk@wisconsin.edu. These are legitimate emails. You can log an Alemba Service Manager (ASM) call on the self-service portal, email BUSsupport@uwec.edu or HRsupport@uwec.edu, or contact the ASK Center and its various units as you have before by emailing askcenter@uwec.edu, calling 715-836-3131 or by stopping in person at Schofield 230. Thank you for your patience as we learn to navigate this ticketing system.

Universal Air Travel Plan (UATP) airfare updates
Travelers who purchase airfare may discover that the ticket does not show up on their credit card statement. Upon review of the ticket invoice, the form of payment gives a clue as to why. If the form of payment starts with the letters “TP,” the airfare was automatically assigned to available UATP funds. The credit card was not charged; however, the funding that would have supported the airfare will be charged by UW System. Regardless of whether a U.S. Bank Corporate Travel card or a procurement travel (PT) card was used, UATP-funded airfare must be expensed through an expense reimbursement report. For further explanation, refer to Unused Ticket Guide – UATP Cards and Expense a Ticket Paid for by UATP Card – UW Eau Claire. Contact the Firstsource Support Team at askcenter@uwec.edu or 715-836-3131 for assistance.

Administrative Professional Collaboration Group (formerly the Administrative Support Collaboration Group) supports administrative professionals on campus
The Administrative Professional Collaboration Group is for administrative professionals on campus (academic department associates, assistants, associates, coordinators, office managers and specialists). This group was created to increase communication and share information; discuss policies, procedures, ideas and changes; and share tips and tricks that relate to our positions. Meetings are scheduled monthly during the academic year. How to join: Go to teams.uwec.edu to download the application. Once you are logged in, click on Join or Create Team in the upper right. Use the search bar to look for UWEC-Administrative-Support. Coordinators will be notified once you have submitted a request to join, and we'll get you added!

Save the date: CERCA 2022
CERCA 2022 will be April 25-29, 2022, on the third floor of Davies Center. We are pleased to return to an in-person format. Please keep your eyes open for more information from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs about the application process.

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.

Submit announcement
Awards and achievements

**Dr. Terry Allen**, professor emeritus of theatre arts, has been nominated for an Eric Hoffer Book Award for his collection of poetry, “Art Work.” Each year, Kelsay Books sponsors a selection of their poetry books for the da Vinci Eye Cover Award and the Eric Hoffer Grand Prize.

Congratulations to **Dr. Catherine Chan**, executive director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs; **Jeremy Janiak**, associate director of event operations in University Centers; **Dr. Troy Kozma**, professor of philosophy and religious studies and academic chair at UW-Eau Claire – Barron County; and **Troy Terhark**, director of Facilities, for completing the Growth Mindset for Leaders program and earning the Chancellor’s Certificate.

**Dr. Dorothy Chan**, assistant professor of English, will give a presentation and Q&A titled “100 Ways to Edit a Poem” Jan. 21 at the University of Michigan’s Helen Zell Writers’ Program.

**Dr. Pamela Guthman**, assistant professor of nursing, **Payton Kaldenberg**, a UW-Eau Claire nursing graduate, and Cara Cook, had their article, “Climate and Environmental Health: Education for Rural Communities,” published in *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners* (in press, October 2021). This report describes how a student and nursing faculty member provided community education to three rural communities, through the local community newspaper, about how climate change impacts the health of rural communities.

**Dr. Chia-Yu Hsu**, associate professor of music-composition, recently won a prestigious international competition that celebrates women composers. Hsu’s chamber orchestra piece, “EC Sketches,” earned her top honors in the Women Composers Competition of Italy’s Femfestival, an event designed to share and promote women’s music and female composers. Read more about Hsu’s honor.

**Dr. Lauren Likkel**, professor emeritus of physics and astronomy, compiled content for the Dec. 17 Leader-Telegram article “Solstices, precession and the North Star.”

**Patti See**, academic advisor in the Advising, Retention and Career Center/senior lecturer in women’s, gender and sexuality studies, will give an informal “craft talk” about how she approaches writing nonfiction, and also will read some of her recent work as part of the “Everyday Icons” series at **6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022**, in the Riverfront Room of Pablo Center. She will present for about 30 minutes at the event, which also is an artist reception featuring works by Mary Catherine Solberg. Tickets are required for this free event, and everyone in attendance must wear a mask and follow Pablo Center’s COVID safety guidelines.

**Dr. Matt Waters**, chair of the languages department, and professor of languages and history, recently had two articles published: “Ashurbanipal’s Legacy: Cyrus the Great and The

Dr. Mckenzie West, assistant professor of mathematics, along with Heidi Goodson (Brooklyn College), Allechar Serrano López (Harvard University) and Christelle Vincent (University of Vermont), organized the annual workshop Rethinking Number Theory, which has been selected by the American Institute of Mathematics to be an AIM Research Community. This award will provide funding and administrative assistance for future iterations of the RNT workshops, meetings and diversity, equity and inclusion conversations.

Submit award/achievement item

In the news

Dr. David Caithamer, senior lecturer in biology at UW-Eau Claire – Barron County and several of his students were featured in the article “UW-EC – BC class collects, distributes seeds in pollinator project” in the Dec. 15 issue of The Chronotype.

Corry Mahnke, commencement coordinator, was quoted in the Dec. 13 Leader-Telegram article “University graduations getting closer to normal.”

Dr. Justin Patchin, professor of criminal justice and co-director of the Cyberbullying Research Center, was quoted in the Dec. 19 Republic World (via Associated Press) article “TikTok Posts Referencing Violence Raise Anxiety At Schools.” The AP story was distributed widely across hundreds of media outlets.

Dr. Kent Syverson, professor of geology, was quoted in the Dec. 16 WORT Radio story “Court Rules Against Frac-Sand Processing Facility In Western Wisconsin.”

Charles Vue, associate director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, was featured in the Dec. 19 WQOW-TV story “UWEC's first ever Hmong graduate inspires students, plans to retire in 2022.”

UW-Eau Claire’s $9.4 million Workforce Innovation Grant was highlighted in numerous media stories, including “Evers announces millions for regional projects addressing workforce challenges,” WQOW-TV, Dec. 14; “Evers announces millions in workforce grants in Eau Claire area,” Leader-Telegram, Dec. 15; “UW-Eau Claire and CVTC receive huge workforce grants,” WQOW-TV, Dec. 14; “Governor Tony Evers awards $9.4 million in grant money to University of

Kimera Way, president of the UW-Eau Claire Foundation, was quoted in the Dec. 15 Philanthropy News Digest article “UW-Eau Claire receives $70 million from alumni for event complex.”

Submit news item

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.*

Dr. Pamela Guthman, assistant professor of nursing, will be retiring at the end of fall semester. She is a champion for addressing health care needs at the community and population levels, and has worked with many individuals on campus and across the region. To leave a message, memory, retirement wish or photo for Pam, please submit your item by Friday, Dec. 24.

Campus news and features

- UW-Eau Claire alumnus challenges new graduates to find a career that makes them ‘come alive’ every day
- UW-Eau Claire professor wins international women composer competition
- HR management and Spanish grad to advocate for Spanish speakers
- Creating her own sustainability studies degree plan: Lauren Gaffron
- Volleyball seniors and Division III champions take life lessons from the game
- Collaboration at the heart of UW-Eau Claire’s $9.4 million Workforce Innovation Grant
- International student thrives as a Blugold despite pandemic

Read/view more campus news and features

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[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.*