

WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

MAGAZINE

FALL 2020 | Vol. 32, No. 3



MISSION STATEMENT

Wisconsin Lutheran College, affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, is a Lutheran liberal arts college for Christian men and women. The college is committed to providing quality teaching, scholarship, and service that are rooted in Holy Scripture; promoting the spiritual growth of students, faculty, and staff; and preparing students for lives of Christian leadership.

PRESIDENT

Dr. Daniel W. Johnson

VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT

Richard Mannisto '94

WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Melanie Buellesbach
Brady Coulthard '22
Jennifer Garbo-Shawhan
Adam Heinzen '06
Lisa Leffel '98
Jonathan Lorenzen '11
Catelyn Picco '21
Jeff Wilson

DESIGNER

Amy Kuether '96

Wisconsin Lutheran College Magazine is published for and distributed free of charge to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the college. For more articles and photos, visit WLC Magazine Online at magazine.wlc.edu.

All letters, news, corrections, and comments should be directed to WLC's Office of Marketing & Communication, 8800 W. Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, WI 53226, publicaffairs@wlc.edu.

If you prefer to receive WLC Magazine electronically or need to update your address, please email friends@wlc.edu. To receive regular enews updates from the college, please share your email address at friends@wlc.edu.



From the President

Friends of WLC,

We are in the midst of the fall semester in this our 48th academic year. It is safe to say that there has never been a beginning to a semester quite like this one.

Our Back-to-College Task Force, comprised of board members, campus leaders, and WLC students, provided vital inputs as we developed plans for a safe return to campus in August.

- We were blessed with a \$200,000 gift, which was used to equip many classrooms with state-of-the-art audio and video equipment to support our teaching face-to-face, online, or in a blended format. Our faculty prepared all summer long so students would have access to the options they may require.
- Our campus facilities have been significantly reconfigured to support physical distancing, and the entire WLC campus family has committed to WarriorsTogether: Masks On, Spread Out, Clean Up, and Check In.

The bottom line: Our campus family has stepped up mightily, and we are mitigating the COVID-19 situation with as little disruption as possible. Our campus family is treasuring the opportunity to be together within our Christian learning community.

An increase in enrollment has been a tremendous blessing. We worked so hard earlier this year to recruit students, all while wondering how the pandemic would impact enrollment. So, what did God do? He brought us one of our largest freshman classes ever – an increase of nearly 32% compared to the prior year. How great is our God!

We are in the midst of remarkable moments within our country and communities. Heartache and challenges abound, especially as they relate to the issue of race. To that end, we hosted a campus-wide conversation on race relations on September 30. God blessed our open and honest discussions. We listened to a thoughtful panel discussion with WLC alumni and friends, all of whom are Godly people of color who shared their perspectives with us, and ended with small-group conversations. We took to heart God's directive to love Him and love others as we act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8).

Thank you for being our partners and friends. Your prayers and support have richly blessed our mission to prepare women and men for lives of Christian leadership, for such a time as this!

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel W. Johnson". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Dr. Daniel W. Johnson
President, Wisconsin Lutheran College

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2.....From the President
- 4.....Welcome Back, Warriors!
- 6.....Pivots
- 9.....An Amazing Gift
- 10.....Celebrating the Class of 2020
- 12.....Value of a WLC Education
- 14.....Athletics News
- 15.....Spotlight on Warriors Coaches
- 17.....Fine Arts News
- 18.....The Comedy of Errors

Fall 2020 | Vol. 32, No. 3

ON THE COVER:

WLC students enjoyed a beautiful fall day on campus. Left to right: Brady Coulthard, Christian Eiland, Jazmaine Cullens, Adeline Slominsky, Sarah Kult, Sandhya Akella, and Zechariah Jung.

Welcome Back, **WARRIORS!**

All of us at Wisconsin Lutheran College are grateful to have our students living on campus and attending in-person classes this fall. Thanks to our faculty, staff, students, and parents for helping to make this happen. Some activities have new locations or have been modified, but WLC is still offering the traditional student experience as much as possible.

Student Life Adjustments

One of the best things about being a WLC student is that there is always something happening on campus, from movie and trivia nights to Bible studies and DIY activities. This academic year has not been without its challenges, but the college's clubs and orgs – along with the Office of Student Programming and the Warrior Events Board (WEB) – have stepped up to keep that spirit alive.

The college's outdoor basketball court and grassy quads have become popular destinations for events that normally take place indoors. A large, heated tent was

put up in the parking lot adjacent to the Schwan Library for events as well. The college's traditional Afternoon Tea moved outdoors to the basketball court for the first time, and snacks (including the much-loved scones) were individually wrapped.

One of the college's most popular weekly activities, Phat Tuesday, is hosted by the WEB. Catelyn Picco '21, WEB vice president, leads the event, making sure the 300 or so students who show up at 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday evenings get free food. The snacks are still a hit, with student favorites being Culver's cheese curds and

root beer floats. The food has to be pre-packaged or prepared following strict safety practices. Phat Tuesday is held outside, weather permitting, to support physical distancing.

"Throughout the past few weeks, I've learned the importance of being flexible. We had to adapt our plans and follow new guidelines this year," Picco said. "Overall, Phat Tuesday still has great attendance, and we are thankful for a way to connect as a community while enjoying fantastic food!"





Class of 2024 *Wow!*

For the 2020-2021 academic year, WLC has been blessed with the second-largest freshman class in its history (and an increase in freshman enrollment of 31.9% over last year). The Class of 2024 took part in WLC's traditional Warrior Orientation & Welcome (WOW) Weekend in late August - with some pandemic-related adjustments, including assigned move-in times, outdoor meetings and activities, and more small-group sessions.

Campus Ministry Modifications

The Campus Ministry Office – led by Pastors Wayne Shevey and Greg Lyon – has made numerous creative adaptations to keep students active and engaged in God's Word this semester. Chapel services are held in the Recreation Complex – Time of Grace Center to allow for physical distancing, as are Sunday worship services when they can't be held outdoors due to weather. Two Vespers services take place each week, with students signing up to reserve a spot due to limited capacity in the chapel.

Bible studies take place in larger spaces on campus, and some offer an online option as well. The fall Campus Ministry retreat couldn't be held off-site as it normally would be, so instead the pastors hosted a well-received cornhole tournament on campus for 33 teams of students, faculty, and staff. Campus Ministry's monthly Hot Dog Day has been able to continue with minimal adjustments!

“Wisconsin Lutheran College has been truly blessed at a time when our world is facing unimaginable challenges,” said Dr. Daniel W. Johnson, president of WLC. “We continue to attract bright, talented men and women because we are unwavering in our commitment to advancing our student offerings to meet their individual needs for academic growth and to continue to prepare our students to serve the world as Christian servant leaders.”



PIVOTS *in the classroom and beyond*

STUDENT TEACHING

Prof. James Holman, director of teacher education, said WLC is blessed that all 26 undergrad and graduate student teachers have been placed this fall. “The quality of education at WLC enables us to easily place our students. Area school districts welcome us,” said Holman.

What has been a challenge for Holman and Jon Ziesemer '14 M.A., coordinator of clinical experiences, however, is getting clinical hours for students. Because school districts are limiting the number of outside people in their classrooms, it's nearly impossible to place sophomores and juniors in classes for 20-30 hours per week. They're not getting the hours needed, nor the valuable experience of being in front of students. Online videos are being used as a substitute for now, but Holman hopes to get clinical students back in classrooms soon.

Three current student teachers, all of whom took part in WLC's August commencement ceremony, offered perspectives on their in-classroom experiences.



RACHEL SEBALD '20
Slinger High School, Slinger, WI

“I'm currently working with five choirs. My cooperating teacher has been with me in-person the whole time, and luckily my college supervisor has been allowed

on campus to observe me. Unlike most schools, our choirs are singing indoors. We have a brand-new performing arts facility that is big enough for students to be properly distanced.

“One of the challenges I've struggled with is trying to create personal connections with students when

I can't read their facial expressions or even know what they look like because they're wearing masks. From a choral standpoint, the masks make modeling vowel shapes nearly impossible. One of my favorite things is taking them outside for mask breaks and seeing what their smiles look like!

“We care for the students and want to help them succeed but do struggle to serve the online students to the same level as the ones who are in class. I'm very thankful to have this opportunity to teach. I know that the challenges I'm facing today are only making me stronger and more capable of running my own classroom.”

ON-CAMPUS CLASSES

This fall, WLC is using a HyFlex model of instruction, which allows for teaching and learning to take place in a traditional face-to-face classroom setting as well as through an online format, should faculty or students be unable to attend class due to quarantine or isolation requirements. HyFlex delivery takes a great deal of time and energy to coordinate on the part of faculty, and requires flexibility from students, but WLC is grateful to offer in-person instruction this fall.

The college is known for its small class sizes and lack of large lecture courses. However, due to the need to spread classes out within larger spaces, nearly every available venue on campus has been put to use - including the Schwan Concert Hall. Even then, some classes still need to have staggered attendance due to classroom capacity limits. In these cases, a live video stream component is used, with students rotating during the week between in-person instruction and online delivery.





AMBER SOYK '20

Wisconsin Hills Middle School, Brookfield, WI

“I’m currently teaching in-person at Wisconsin Hills Middle School. My biggest challenge has been trying to develop a routine and a sense of normalcy. Everyone is still uncertain about the future, so consistency and care are what the students need the most right now. We are doing our best to create that despite all the obstacles in our path.

“Since I set foot in Wisconsin Hills, I have witnessed the tireless care and devotion of the teachers, who have put in endless hours. Many have given up their nights and weekends to ensure that they are doing all they can for their students. All this work comes on top of the hours that teachers put in every day with students and completing supervisory roles. The sacrifices of the teachers are truly remarkable.”



LEVI SCHRIEFER '20

Dixon Elementary School, Brookfield, WI

“The Elmbrook School District has been standing strong on its decision to start and stay in-person. Of course, they have implemented a ton of precautionary measures to maintain a safe learning environment. My supervising teacher initially elected to teach virtually, however things changed within the school, allowing her to be in the classroom. This has been beneficial for both of us, as we have managed to produce a steady, positive connection with the class.

“Following the mask mandate and cleaning procedures have been the toughest challenges for students. Keeping friends distanced at recess, the large amount of hand sanitizer used daily, and a new routine of classes can challenge students’ feelings about school. Behind the scenes, teachers are working to continue a daily practice of education and student development. The best thing we as teachers can do is to promote stability within the classroom. And giving students some extra time at recess isn’t a bad idea either!”

NURSING CLINICAL PLACEMENTS

Dr. Sheryl Scott, associate professor and chair of the WLC School of Nursing, said that this fall the college’s junior nursing students have clinical placements at Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital - Elmbrook Campus and Froedtert Hospital, while senior nursing students are at Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital - St. Joseph Campus and Children’s Wisconsin - Milwaukee Hospital.

Scott said: “We have a virtual clinical program online that we used in the spring and will do so again if needed. However, we continue to pray that the students can remain in the clinical sites through the semester; the hands-on experience is so important to their learning and development.”

Junior Rebekah Stahmann said she’s grateful that WLC was able to coordinate clinical rotations during the pandemic: “While there have been many changes to policies and procedures, I’m confident that these experiences will prepare us to be more adaptable, resilient nurses in the future because of the challenges we have had to face.”



WLC nursing students at a Froedtert Hospital clinical
(left-right): Samantha Yasumatsu, Ciearria Mortaloni, Rebekah Stahmann, Abigail Vavra, Rachel Werner, Brianna Bakri, Anna Krause, and Natalie Lendt.



Practicum Placements

JAZMAINE CULLENS '21

Intern with a child-care facility, Milwaukee

“Many agencies were putting practicum positions on hold as they focused on adjusting during their transitions to online or virtual formats. The biggest change at my location is that there are typically more kids at the site. A lot of the kids are doing online learning so they don’t need before- and after-school services as they did before.”

This fall, based on each agency’s requirements, some of WLC’s human social services students are doing virtual practicum placements, some are face-to-face, and some are a mixture of both. The academic program has had to adapt, and Prof. Dee Dee Mackie, instructor of human social services, understands that getting the necessary number of hours may be difficult. “We are encouraging each student to be attentive to the amount of hours needed and to try their best to come as close to possible to this requirement,” she said.

KARIS STRAND '21

Intern with Safe Families for Children, Milwaukee

“While agencies are slowly letting students in, there are new protocols in place, so sometimes we have difficulty fulfilling our hour requirements. In my current placement, we are using Zoom calls instead of in-person meetings with our clients and volunteers, filling out paperwork outside when in-person contact is needed, and having drive-through events instead of large gatherings.”



Internships

Internships provide students with valuable hands-on and real-world learning experiences and networking opportunities. COVID-19 provided challenges, but many companies were able to adapt and still provide these important experiences. One such example:

CLAIRE SCHLEG'S internship with U.S. Bank was supposed to be in-person for 10 weeks but was adjusted to be a six-week, virtual experience. “I was genuinely amazed at how they were able to fit the entire internship into a reduced timeframe,” said Schleg, a business administration major who will complete her coursework at WLC this December.

She served as an internal audit/mutual fund account intern over the summer. “The only thing I would have hoped for would be to be able to physically work in the U.S. Bank Center in downtown Milwaukee,” Schleg added. Despite the challenges of working virtually, she found the internship to be beneficial. She even received a full-time job offer from U.S. Bank.



An Amazing Gift



Wisconsin Lutheran College is pleased to name the Sharon A. Schoeneck Nursing Lab as a result of a generous gift from alumna **Sharon A. Schoeneck '89**. "When [alumna director] Lisa Leffel called to ask me if I wanted to sponsor the

the students will see and use in hospital and clinical environments, as well as training equipment that will prepare students to be knowledgeable, safe, and confident when they provide care to patients during their clinical rotations.

Nursing students can practice catheterization on a virtual cadaver or manipulate 4-D scans of beating hearts or breathing lungs. Radiologic technology students can use their finger to "cut" preloaded CT or MRI scans in any plane. Pre-med students can visualize nerve or blood vessel pathways in photorealistic scans of healthy or pathologic specimens. Pre-vet students will have an incredibly immersive way to compare the sectional anatomy of a wide range of animal specimens.

"I was so shocked! I knew that naming the nursing lab was something that had been discussed, but to have someone come forward to do it is amazing ... and then to find out a short time later that we had been given the money to completely fund our wish list, too, was beyond believable! Words cannot express our gratitude to Sharon Schoeneck for this amazing gift."

*- Sheryl Scott, DNP, RN, CNE;
associate professor and chair, WLC School of Nursing*

nursing lab I was overjoyed. I love nursing and want to do everything I can to make WLC the best program possible because we need more exceptional Christian nurses," Schoeneck said. She earned her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from WLC, but also holds Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Business Administration degrees from Marquette University.

Providing students with a high-quality nursing education requires many resources. Schoeneck's generous gift will enable WLC's program to purchase items that

Schoeneck added: "Nurses have the unique opportunity to be able to live our faith in our careers. God puts nurses in the right place at the right time to call on Him. The miracle may be healing a severely ill patient, but it may also be the Holy Spirit bringing family members to a stronger or even a new faith in God."

As if naming the Sharon A. Schoeneck Nursing Lab and funding all the items on the School of Nursing wish list wasn't enough, Schoeneck went even further and made a donation to cover the cost of an Anatomage Table.

Dr. Rob Balza, dean of WLC's College of Health Sciences, explained: "The Anatomage Table is an amazing gift that will benefit all health science students at WLC."





“You have, as Christians, an inherent optimism that is going to be contagious, and our world badly needs it.”

- Rev. Mark Jeske



On Saturday, August 29, Wisconsin Lutheran College held its spring/summer commencement exercises at Franklin Field at The Rock Sports Complex in Franklin, Wisconsin. The outdoor venue was chosen for its larger capacity, allowing for physically distanced seating. At the ceremony, WLC awarded diplomas to more than 150 traditional undergraduate students, adult accelerated degree program students, and graduate students in attendance.



The Class of 2020 selected **Emily Frey** of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as its student speaker. Frey graduated from WLC with a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education, broad field science education, and biology. At WLC, Frey worked in the Office of Student Life, organizing the Intramural Department and serving as an office assistant to the dean of student life. She also served as secretary for the Future Teacher Education Association and participated in the women’s basketball program.

Frey reminded her fellow classmates that they should not take God’s blessings and His gifts for granted. “This school - the faculty, staff, athletics, extracurriculars - are all blessings that God has given to us, and in reality, we do not deserve any of them,” she said. “Even though we all thought we had one plan for this year, our God decided to change that plan. What an amazing





Celebrating the Class of 2020

reminder that God is in control, and ultimately it is His plan for our lives that is the most important.”



The keynote speaker on that beautiful summer day was Milwaukee native **Rev. Mark Jeske**, who has served as the senior pastor at St. Marcus Lutheran Church on Milwaukee’s near north side since 1980. During the earlier years of his tenure there, he made a personal commitment not to abandon the inner city when racial tensions caused urban flight to accelerate. Pastor Jeske began bringing the Word of God to viewers of *Time of Grace* in 2001; by 2018, when he turned over *Time of Grace’s* broadcasting and writing leadership to Pastor Mike Novotny, the broadcasts were airing on more than 125 stations, cable networks, satellite channels, Armed Forces television, and the internet.

Pastor Jeske told graduates not to feel sorry for themselves during this trying time. “If you are, you’re forgetting that God does His best work in times of disruption,” he said. “Don’t curse your luck at being sent out into a world so disrupted. You were given this fabulous education for this very reason. You are trained richly in the Word of God to know the principles of our Creator and Savior. And you have, as Christians, an inherent optimism that is going to be contagious, and our world badly needs it.”

His advice: “Don’t run away from the mess and the chaos, but walk right into it with your eyes wide open and your heart wide open.”

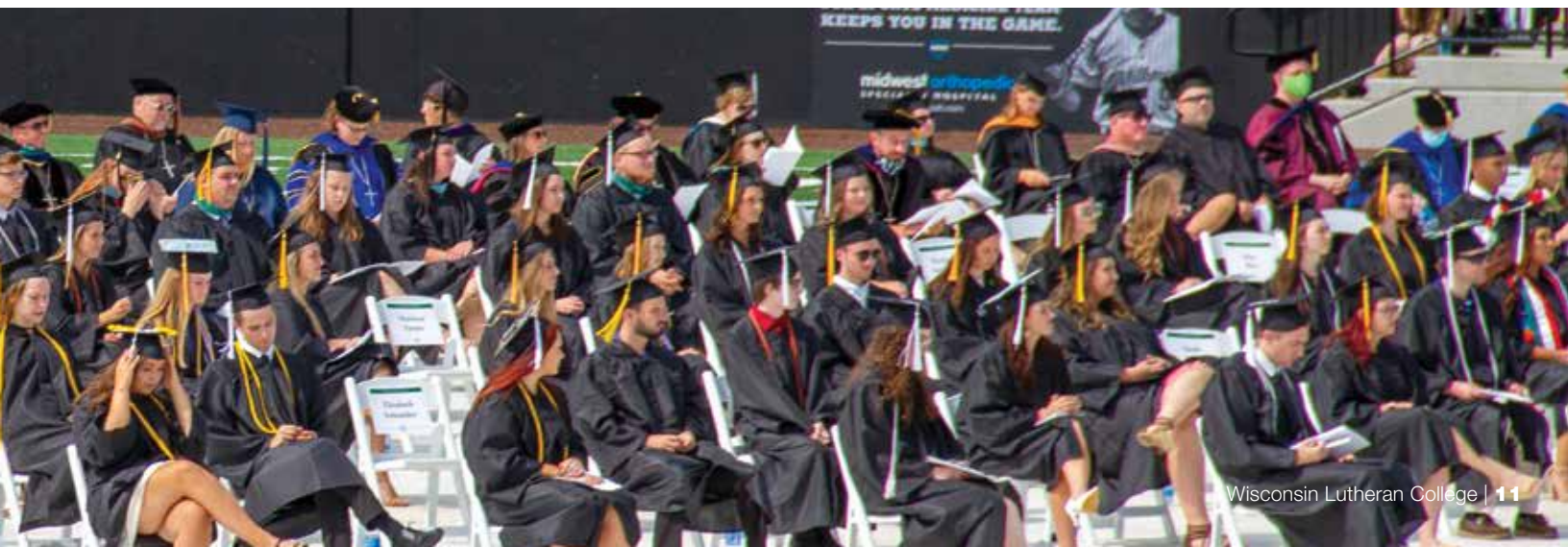


Stacy (Lorfeld) Becker '05

received the Alumni Service Award during the ceremony for her commitment to WLC as shown by serving on the Alumni Board and chairing the Admissions Subcommittee,

speaking at the President’s Welcome Luncheon, and giving back with her talents as a director for the WLC Theatre Department. In her Alumni Welcome address to the graduates she shared: “I’m often asked how I got from theatre major to SAAS product owner. The answer to that question for me is the same answer that you can give: your foundation in the liberal arts that you learned at WLC. When I was in school, I learned about the things that were important to my majors, but I also learned how to think, adjust, collaborate, communicate and learn new things, and how to do all those things from a foundation of Christian leadership.”

Becker also encouraged the Class of 2020 not to be afraid, “because you know that God has a plan for you, and His plan will turn out exactly the way He intends it.”





VALUE OF A WLC EDUCATION

WLC generously invests in making a Christian college education affordable, because we've seen the positive impact our graduates make in the workplace and in their local communities as servant leaders. Last year, WLC awarded more than \$15.3 million dollars in scholarship support to students, helping to make their dream of a WLC education a reality. Because of its commitment to offering value in higher education, WLC regularly is recognized in national rankings.

DEBT-FREE JOURNEY

David Wilson '20 demonstrated that it's possible to graduate debt-free. To do so, he said, "I had to get creative, work hard, and stay focused." His hard work paid off, as Wilson now works for Epic, a large health technology company based in Wisconsin.

First, Wilson discovered that WLC would be less expensive for him than a large state school, and after much research he was certain WLC was the right fit for him both financially and personally.

Next, he applied for numerous scholarships and received a mix of institutional and private awards that covered a large portion of his tuition. Then for two years, he served as a resident assistant, enabling him to save more than \$25,000 in fees and room and board charges at WLC. In addition, Wilson held two sales internships, operated two small businesses, and started a tech review channel on YouTube.

Finally, he learned the importance of budgeting from taking a David Ramsey personal finance course. Wilson admits he didn't always budget to a "T" but has always been conscious of what is wasteful spending and what is opportunistic spending.

Washington Monthly included WLC in its 2020 list of **America's Best Bang for the Buck Colleges**. **WLC is 21st** in a list of 372 schools in the Midwest, which ranks schools according to how well they help non-wealthy students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices.

MONEY Magazine put WLC on its 2020 list of **Best Colleges in America, Ranked by Value**. This ranking combines educational quality, affordability, and alumni success.

But the best way to demonstrate an intangible concept like value is to use real-world examples.

DUAL-DEGREE PARTNERSHIPS

WLC has partnered with several colleges and universities to establish 12 articulation agreements in multiple fields of study. These partnerships give WLC students the opportunity to earn two degrees - often in a shorter amount of time - allowing them to **save on tuition costs and enter the workplace sooner**.

The newest partnership is in public health with The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. In four years, WLC students can complete their Bachelor of Science degree in biology while concurrently earning a 15-credit graduate certificate in public health from MCW. After graduating from WLC, students can complete their Master of Public Health degree from MCW in just one year, nearly one year less than typical.

ALUMNI GIVING BACK

When alumni director Lisa Leffel '98 started her role in 2004, there were 187 alumni donors. Fast-forward to 2019-2020, when a record 637 graduates made a donation to WLC. Why does alumni giving matter? The donations are vital to supporting the mission of WLC, but the impact goes beyond that. One component of many national rankings is based on the percentage of alumni who give back, connecting alumni giving to alumni satisfaction. **When alumni give back, they demonstrate that they had a good experience at WLC and want to support future students.**

WLC's annual goal is to have 17% of alumni give back - a percentage that ranks third in the state among private colleges. The percentage also is important to foundations, businesses, and other donors who look to support WLC. In their minds, if alumni who attended WLC don't support the college, why should they? This year is off to a great start and is trending toward being another record-breaker.



Millicent Selenka,
Elise Bock, and
Bryan Jansen

WARRIORS *hiring* WARRIORS

WLC grads personally know the value of their education, so hiring fellow alumni and current students can be an easy decision to make. Last year, the WLC School of Business senior capstone class project was to develop a strategic business plan to assist alumnus Bryan Jansen '03. Teams of students conducted research for him and provided Jansen with useful ideas and insights that were actionable for his business, Thrivent Financial - Gateway Associates.

During the project, Jansen had the opportunity to meet many of WLC's senior business students.

He was impressed with the education they received and their maturity, but one stood out: Elise Bock '20. According to Jansen, "Elise embodied the humble servant leader that I desperately seek to employ." He hired Bock, who now serves as the brand strategy and digital marketing assistant for Gateway Associates.

Jansen has a history of hiring WLC students and grads. Senior Millicent Selenka is the fifth WLC intern he has mentored. Jansen shared: "There is a quiet confidence amongst our WLC interns - the perfect mix of confidence and humility - which

creates the ideal candidates as I look to grow and improve my business. Millicent is as loyal, thoughtful, and educated as they come, and we hope to create a long-term future with her, which includes a full-time role as our client experience manager upon graduation."

Hiring and growing a business during a pandemic has been an unexpected blessing for Jansen. His relationship with faculty and staff at WLC has shortened the hiring process and provided him with the confidence that he is hiring the best candidates.

WARRIORS ATHLETICS ADJUSTS AMID COVID-19

In late July, the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (NACC) announced the postponement of all conference regular season competition and championships during the fall and winter seasons through December 31, 2020.

“In these difficult and unprecedented times, I am extremely proud to be a Warrior,” said Skip Noon, director of athletics. “Our coaches have the difficult task of engaging our student-athletes with a quality experience. Our student-athletes have responded, not with frustration, but with willingness and support for the work ahead of them. For many, competition has been delayed, so the current task at hand is for Warriors to be safe and get better, stronger, faster, and more skilled.”

Skill development, conditioning, and other athletic-related activities are allowed for all WLC teams in accordance with NCAA Division III rules and with state and NCAA health directives. Athletes undergo daily temperature checks and self-screenings prior to team activities. Sports designated as low contact (golf, tennis, track & field) and medium contact (cross country, baseball, softball) are permitted to play outside competition.

“We preach about the ability to respond to adversity, and that’s easy to say, but we get a chance to live it right now,” said head football coach Eric Treske ’08. “To see the way our team has responded, rallied, and come together despite unique circumstances has been awesome. If this is any indication of the type of team we’re going to have moving forward, I’m really excited.”



Freshman Sky Pope (pictured) and junior Sandhya Akella played a doubles match against Bryant & Stratton College in September. Tennis and golf were two of the six sports able to compete this fall.



Junior Solomon Zarleng (left) and senior Johnny Kositzky Jr. (center) received a trophy from Coach Adam Volbrecht after sharing medalist honors with a 72 to lead the men’s golf team to a win over Concordia Wisconsin in September.

NEW GOLF CENTER OPENS

THE MORTELL FAMILY GOLF CENTER, occupying the former fitness center space on the mid-level of the Recreation Complex, was recently completed thanks to generous contributions. The golf center includes an 800-square-foot putting and chipping surface, a Full Swing simulator that includes more than 25 championship golf courses, a hitting net, golf club lockers, and a 70-inch flat screen television.

“What a blessing for our student-athletes and campus community,” said head men’s golf coach Adam Volbrecht ’04. “There are few institutions at this level that can match our facilities. The demand that we’ve experienced shows how desperately our student-athletes crave the opportunity to keep improving. The contributions from so many who love WLC and our student-athletes that made this possible speaks volumes about the community that exists here and beyond.”

“The Mortell Family Golf Center has been such a blessing for our golf athletes on campus,” said head women’s golf coach Julie Langebartels ’04. “The putting and chipping area offers a smooth, realistic surface for our players to practice. We love playing rounds and using the driving range on the simulator. It is so convenient to have an amazing golf center on campus for our students.”



SPOTLIGHT ON WARRIORS COACHES



WLC Athletic Communications is interviewing coaches and staff from Warriors Athletics each week. Look for new features every Monday on wlcsports.com.



STEVE TRAVIS

*Head Cross Country Coach | Assistant Track & Field Coach
Years of Service at WLC: 28*

When did you first know that you wanted to be a coach?

In my youth, I thought coaches were classroom teachers who also coached, and I had no desire to spend more time in the classroom than necessary. So the idea of being a coach didn't occur to me. It was at the end of my senior year of college that I was introduced to Skip Noon at a track meet at UW-Whitewater and presented with the possibility of

coaching at WLC. God's direction and timing presented and nurtured this great opportunity to coach.

How would you describe your gameday demeanor?

I try to maintain a calm demeanor and give simple, confident direction with as few words as possible: a handshake while directly looking athletes in the eye to convey confidence. I believe this approach



brings the athletes into focus and calms their nerves.

What is the most effective selling point you've found in recruiting future Warriors?

Sharing that WLC is truly a Christian community and a home away from home, which becomes evident when a recruit visits campus and interacts with a variety of WLC faculty, staff, and students.



STEVE DONOVAN

*Football Defensive Coordinator | Strength and Conditioning Coordinator
Years of Service at WLC: 6*

What advice would you give your athletes today if they want to become a coach someday?

You need to be willing to put others first. It is incredibly satisfying to make a difference in young men's lives, but it takes an unselfish attitude to be willing to listen and understand how to reach individuals going through different circumstances in their lives.

Who is the most famous athlete you've ever met?

I met Walter Payton when I was 9 or 10 years old, when my older brother was playing high school football against Payton's son, Jarrett. Before the game there was a line of kids around the stadium, and Payton met with as many kids as he could, signing autographs until kickoff. It reminded me that as famous as he was, his priority was to his family and watching his son play.



What is the most effective selling point you've found in recruiting future Warriors?

I try to convey to future Warriors our family atmosphere as well the relationships with people on campus. Everyone at WLC has a servant leader's heart and is here to help you grow as a person, student, and athlete.



JULIE LANGEBARTELS '04

*Head Women's Golf Coach | Assistant Women's Basketball Coach
Years of Service at WLC: 10*

If you could have any coach as an assistant on your staff, who would it be?

I would likely pick my dad to be my assistant coach. With his many years of experience coaching a variety of sports and his knowledge, I know he could continue to help me grow in my coaching and understanding. If not my dad, I would pick Klay Knueppel and his dad, Paul Knueppel, who have both taught me so much about sports and caring for the athletes on my team.

What advice would you give your athletes if they want to become a coach someday?

Keep learning from other coaches and gaining valuable experience assisting others whenever opportunities arise. As a young coach, it is easy to think you know a lot about the sport you are coaching. (I sure did!) Then you soon realize that there is so much to learn not just about the game, but about working with players and parents. Continue to study, learn, ask questions, and shadow others!



What is the most effective selling point you've found in recruiting future Warriors?

The best selling point when recruiting is that WLC is a Christian school where people care about each other. Professors and students are friendly everywhere on campus, and it gives WLC a different feel than other schools. Obviously, the focus on building students into future servant leaders through the Christian programs on campus and athletic opportunities is a huge recruiting point for future Warriors.



LOGAN FYE '15 M.A.

*Associate Head Men's Soccer Coach
Years of Service at WLC: 8*

When did you first know that you wanted to be a coach?

In high school and college, I would draw up my ideal lineups and tactics for the teams I played on. I hadn't given coaching a second thought though until my playing career at UW-Whitewater ended. As someone who had been around the game for what seemed like a lifetime, I couldn't give that up, and coaching was the next logical step!

What coach has had the biggest impact on your life?

My dad was my coach from a young age, and we had a great team made up of a bunch of local kids from a

small town. My dad wasn't a soccer guy and hadn't really coached before, but he put so much time into learning the game of soccer and how to coach it. But most importantly, he made it an enjoyable experience for all of the players. Establishing an environment where every kid can learn or improve while also making it fun has been a staple of my coaching career, thanks to my dad.

What is the most effective selling point you've found in recruiting future Warriors?

We bring in high-character players who have a love for the game and a common goal of working together to



push our program to the top. WLC is a special place, and it's easy to attract student-athletes when they step on campus and see how great this place can be for their future.



Schlueter Art Gallery *Remodeled*

The Schlueter Art Gallery is a focal point of Wisconsin Lutheran College's Center for Arts and Performance. Opened in 1996, the space has hosted countless works of art by student, faculty, alumni, and guest artists. With years of regular use, however, the room was in desperate need of renovation. "Floor tiles were starting to come out and wall coverings were tearing off," said professor of art and gallery manager Kristin Gjerdsset.

Recognizing the importance of visual arts in the lives of WLC students, an anonymous donor made a tremendous gift to completely overhaul the gallery. Work was completed over the summer to install all new hardwood floors, soft and durable fabric walls, and updated lobby furniture. "The gallery is now an even more valuable asset and a space to show off in and of itself," commented Gjerdsset. "It's ready to showcase the creativity of students and the community through art exhibits, lectures, workshops, and classroom experiences." WLC is grateful for this remarkable gift, which enabled the much-needed restoration to occur.

ROCKLEY FOUNDATION SALE

In late July, dozens of pianos and stringed instruments filled the Center for Arts and Performance for WLC's seventh-annual piano and violin sale. Since 2014, the college has partnered with the Rockley Family Foundation of Lakewood, Colorado, to present this experience on campus in which members of the community are able to view and purchase instruments.

WLC's arrangement with the Rockley Foundation provides the college's music department with loaned digital pianos on a no-cost basis. These pianos are connected to computers with specialized software and are used by music students to learn theory, composing, and arranging. Every one to two years, the foundation furnishes brand-new models, giving students access to the latest technology.

Patricia Waraczynski '22, who is double-majoring in music and history and minoring in piano pedagogy, speaks to the importance of the instruments: "It would be difficult to overestimate how helpful the Rockley pianos are. They streamline composing and arranging, and they have beautiful tone quality – better than some traditional pianos. I don't know what music majors would do without them!"

In addition to loaning the digital pianos, the foundation has donated a number of stringed and wind instruments to WLC. "The Rockley Foundation really does their best to accommodate us by donating the instruments we need," said Dr. Juanita Becker, professor of music. "They save us a considerable amount of money in rental costs." The foundation also makes an annual cash contribution, which is used for other department needs.

The Rockley Family Foundation is a nonprofit organization that seeks to bring music education to schools and students in need.



Students in Prof. Gjerdsset's ART 110 Drawing 1 class took advantage of the remodeled Schlueter Art Gallery, which offered space for them to spread out during a still-life drawing session.

THE COMEDY OF



In late September, the WLC Theatre Department presented William Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* in two outdoor performances on the Campus Quad that had audience members in stitches. The play, one of Shakespeare's earliest comedies, is based on a work by Roman playwright, Plautus. The scene is set in ancient Ephesus, Greece, and follows the misadventures of two sets of identical twins, separated at birth, as they reunite by chance.

WLC Theatre took an "Original Practices/First Folio" (OP/FF) approach in their production of *The Comedy of Errors*. In this method, actors prepare for their roles individually, but are together as a cast for the very first time at the public performance. The style seeks to mimic the way in which actors in Shakespeare's day may have rehearsed for their productions. "In those days, plays were performed every afternoon, but rarely the same play back-to-back. There would've been little, if any, time to rehearse as we do today," said associate professor of theatre and play director Jay Sierszyn. "How they did this is somewhat a mystery, but they likely used cue cards or worked with a script that included numerous acting and directing clues."

In the same way, WLC student actors prepared for their roles by digging into the original version of the printed manuscript from 1623. They were provided with a script containing only their character's lines preceded by the last few words from the previous character (their cue). The OP/FF method challenges students to let their character emerge from a proper studying and acting of the written text.

Abigail Bloomquist '22, who played the role of Luciana, reflected on her experiences as a member of the cast: "*The Comedy of Errors* was a major learning experience. Relying on just my script helped me grow as an actor by forcing me to make my own choices and interpretations."

ERRORS

by William Shakespeare



With nearly all rehearsing occurring at the individual level, the OP/FF method was a natural fit for producing a play in the midst of a pandemic. And while performing outdoors was necessary to ensure safe physical distancing, the experience allowed actors to approximate the original conditions of a typical play in Shakespeare's day.

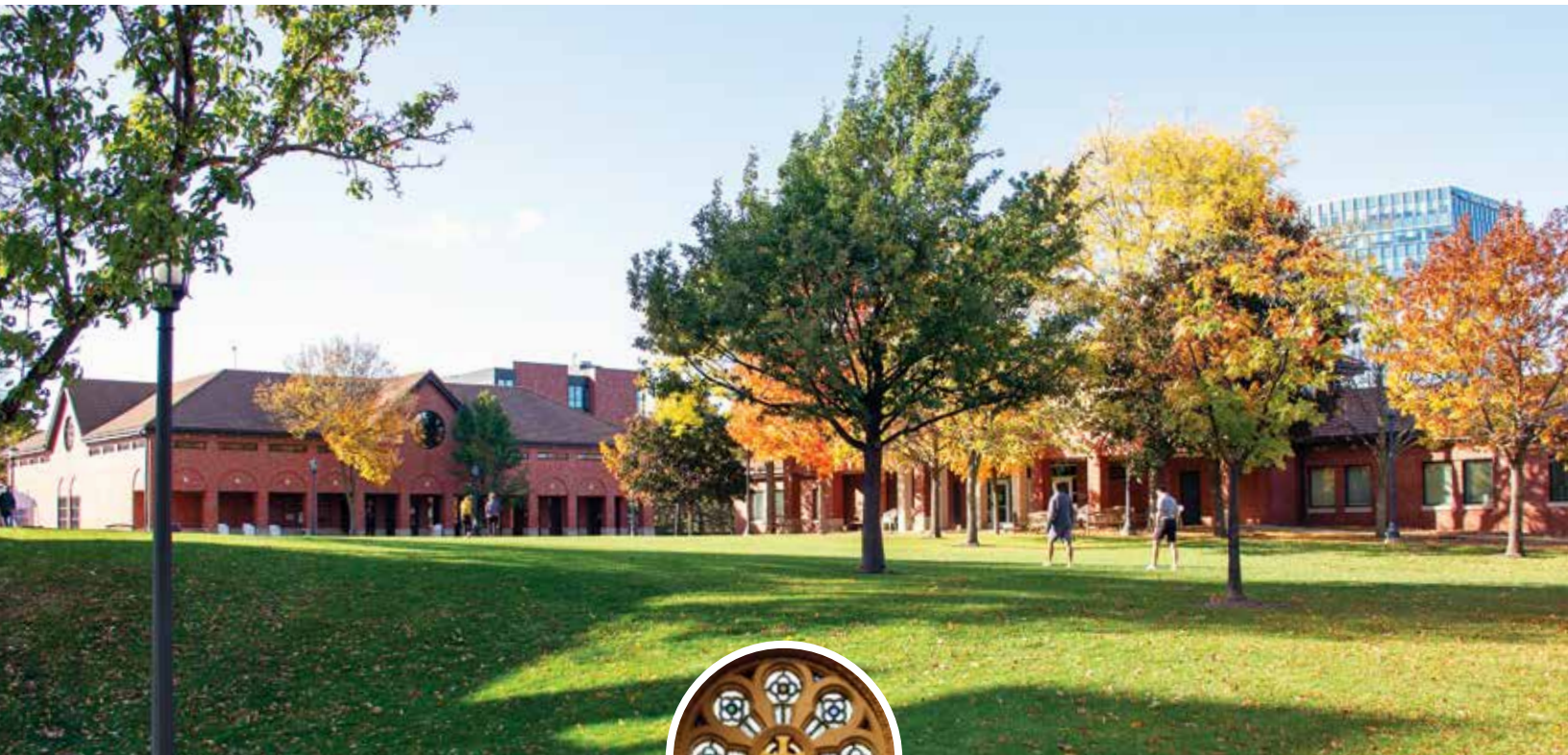
Looking back on the performance, Sierszyn said: "What a great experience! The students embraced the challenges of the Original Practices/First Folio approach, the outdoor venue, and working under pandemic conditions with enthusiasm and grace. Hey, we might just do this again!"



WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

8800 West Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226-9942

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 3335
Milwaukee, WI



*“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” - Micah 6:8 (NIV)*

WLC.EDU | 414.443.8800