



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
**WHITEWATER**  
SCHOOL of GRADUATE STUDIES  
AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

CONTINUING  
EDUCATION  
NEWSLETTER

March 2018

## Celebrating Early Childhood Educators, 40 Years, and "Who You Are"

Professional development, networking, and relationship-building are necessary for practitioners in all fields. For the 40<sup>th</sup> year, [Continuing Education Services](#) will be offering programs to meet this need for early childhood educators in the region. The [Early Childhood Conference](#) (ECC) will once again be held on April 6 and 7 on campus. The theme for this year's conference is "Celebrate Who You Are" and is an opportunity for presenters, practitioners, educators, past participants, and current students to explore topics that are relevant to their practice and place in the field. **The high quality of programming and expertise of the many presenters have brought more than 200,000 educators to campus since 1978.** Robin Fox, conference director, says the caliber of presenters and superior customer service is what sets the conference apart and makes it the largest of its kind in the state. "These practitioners are so valuable in our communities and our conference affirms this," Fox says.

The 40<sup>th</sup> year of the conference is bittersweet for Fox, however. She's stepping aside after leading the conference as director since 2002. Fox will be publishing a book, working on other writing opportunities, and focusing her time on her duties as associate dean of the [College of Education and Professional Studies](#). "I have made some strong friendships and relationships because of my involvement with ECC," Fox says. "But, I am happy to be stepping aside when the conference is in a good place." Fox will continue to be involved with the conference in the future, and is looking forward to providing guidance to Kristen Linzmeier (Curriculum & Instruction) who will take over as director in 2019.





Robin Fox, ECC Director



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## Projects Funded to Strengthen Community Partnerships

The [Engaged Scholarship](#) program provides financial support to projects that establish or enhance relationships between UW-Whitewater and community partners throughout Southeastern Wisconsin. **Funded projects address critical needs of the region and the 2018 recipients highlight the range of needs the projects aim to meet.** Carrie Merino (Counselor Education) is working with the Janesville Police Department on data collection and evaluation to measure a recidivism reduction project. Rocio Duchesne (Geography, Geology & Environmental Science) is collaborating with the Walworth County Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a water testing campaign and disseminate the results to the region. Addressing patients' unmet needs is the focus of the partnership between the Rock River Free Clinic and Jeannine Rowe and Katherine Drechsler (Social Work). Jessica Bonjour (Chemistry) will lead a new partnership between the Watertown School District and UW-Whitewater Science Outreach. Learn more about the program, this year's funded projects, and other funded projects since 2016 on our [website](#).



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## Spring Lecture Series Focusing on Native America

There's still time to attend a free public lecture this spring! The [Fairhaven Lecture Series](#) is highlighting the rich and diverse traditions of America's indigenous peoples and exploring the contemporary policies and issues of social justice facing native communities. Eleven lectures in the "[Native America: People and Places, Past and Present](#)" series will be hosted at Fairhaven Senior Services on Monday afternoons at 3pm through April 16. Several lectures remain in the series, including presentations on tribal social entrepreneurship by Amy Klemm Verbos (Finance and Business Law), interpreting treaties by Anthony Gulig (History), and spearfishing by Larry Nesper (UW-Madison).

The lecture series is pleased to partner with the [2018 Big Read](#) to host a lecture by the featured scholar, Amy Cassleman Hontalas, author and lecturer from San Francisco State University. Hontalas' talk will explore justice for native women survivors of sexual assault and themes related to this year's book selection, *The Roundhouse* by Louise Erdrich.

Videos of lectures that have already taken place can be viewed anytime on the Series website [here](#). **Check out over 100 videos of lectures on topics from Abraham Lincoln to Walmart from our collection.** And stay tuned for our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary season this fall, which will highlight faculty research and expertise as part of UW-Whitewater's Sesquicentennial.



Michael Gueno (Philosophy and Religious Studies) discussing Native American Spirituality and Practice on March 5.

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## Welcome New Staff: John Fons, Director of Continuing Education Services



On March 1, [Continuing Education Services](#) (CES) welcomed new director, John Fons. In this role, **John will be leading the Camps and Conferences staff to develop new non-credit programming and continue to offer dozens of youth athletic and music camps and professional development opportunities for adults.**

Before joining the CES team, John served as assistant dean of administration and finance for UW Colleges online and the UW-Rock campuses. He was also associate dean of academic affairs for the UW-Rock County campus. In his free time, John can be found at his kids' music and sporting events, working with his wife, Kim, on house projects, or on a camping trip. Welcome, John!

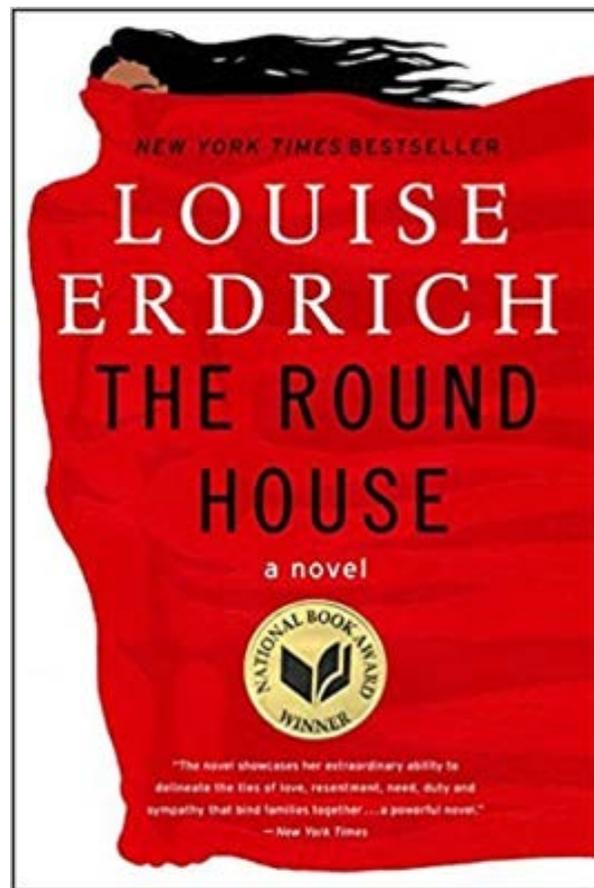
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## Discussions on Impact of Sexual Assault Open to All

Sexual violence affects [survivors](#), their [families](#), and entire [communities](#). **Students, faculty, staff and the public are invited and encouraged to join us for facilitated discussions on the impact of assault on these individuals and groups in April.** Terri DeWalt (University Health & Counseling), Ellie Schemenauer (Women's and Gender Studies) and Erica Fischer (University Health and Counseling) will each facilitate a discussion, and you may sign up for any or all of the discussion sessions. The discussions are part of a wide range of programs on campus and in the community that complement the themes in this year's [Big Read](#) book selection, *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich.

Continuing Education is pleased to partner with many campus departments and community organizations to present this community reading program and related activities this spring. See the full calendar of events [here](#).

The NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.



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## More News & Upcoming Events

- Learn more about workforce projections for our region and help identify skills needed by workers at the [Regional Career Readiness](#) workshop on April 3.
- Making impact, marketing, and talent management are the topics for professional development classes this spring. [Learn more](#) about the classes, designed for nonprofit professionals in partnership with UW-Parkside.
- The Association for Science Teacher Education selected Matt Vick as its recipient of the [Innovation in Teaching Science Teachers award](#) for his continued partnership with the Mukwonago Area School district. The project was initially funded by a UW-W Education Outreach grant in 2014.
- Looking for professional development opportunities? Consider a [certificate program](#) in Effective Communication, Leadership, or Office Management.
- Anne Tillett, ECE4U program coordinator, will be part of the Wisconsin delegation at the [T.E.A.C.H. National Symposium](#), where she will participate in a faculty panel discussion on making higher education work for working early childhood educators.