Students helping students. This is the philosophy that fosters student achievement at the Mary Poppe Chrisman Success Center. By hosting a variety of learning instructional options including small group supplemental instruction, online tutoring and one-on-one tutoring sessions, students develop the skills and knowledge to succeed. Learning assistants work one-on-one with students to create individualized learning strategies. During the 2018-19 academic year, 71,300 hours of free tutoring services were provided to students.

The Chrisman Success Center which opened in fall 2017, was partially made possible through a generous donation from alumnus Byron R. “Chris” Chrisman ’59, in honor of his late wife, Mary Poppe Chrisman ’57.

Student Success Programs

UW-Whitewater is over 150 years strong and continues to expand our global presence while transforming the lives of students on our campuses. Recently, we added the Rock County campus to our family and conferred a record-breaking graduating class. We celebrated our Sesquicentennial Anniversary and raised more than $17 million, including our single largest donation in history!

We look forward to the next 150 years and the great things we will achieve when the Warhawk family comes together.
High-Impact Practices

The university is a leader in the use of High-Impact Practices (HIPs) to provide experiences that enhance student learning and development outside the classroom. Participation in HIPs can be transformational. Among the diverse opportunities available at UW-Whitewater are learning communities, study-abroad programs, undergraduate research programs, internships, and international student teaching.

The Student Opportunities Fund, which was established in 2018 through a charitable gift from the UW-Whitewater Hong Kong alumni group, will grow as additional gifts are made.

93% of seniors have participated in at least one HIP

72% of seniors have participated in two or more HIPs

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Scholarship Receptions

Alumni, community members and businesses in the Warhawk Family have established over 600 funds with the UW-Whitewater Foundation to support UW-Whitewater. These funds distributed over $2.8 million in 2018-19 to student and faculty development scholarships, awards and support and Warhawk athletic program support.

Included in these funds is a wide variety of student scholarships, each one showing the donor’s passion to help students succeed and complete their education. The new Lawrence Scholarship for Single Mothers is a perfect example of this passion for our students. Created by Laura Lawrence (B.A. ’02, MBA ’09) and her daughter Reagan, the fund will provide scholarships to help single moms make it to graduation.

“I felt like the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater was a very safe place for me to be a single mom. They had the flexibility that I was looking for to be able to complete my program. Financial burdens are extraordinary. They can be the reason why people stop programs. If this helps somebody not quit their program, I would love to be a part of that.”
—Laura Lawrence, ’02, MBA ’09

Award celebrations are held each year to recognize scholarship recipients and provide donors and the community with the opportunity to honor the accomplishments of these Warhawk students. Students are able to meet the people behind their scholarship and begin to forge bonds that connect students with alumni.

Amos Malone ’15 and MSE ’17, Jessica Hernandez, Dean Frank Goza. Amos Malone, is the founding donor to a scholarship which assists a rising senior majoring in criminology and intending to pursue a career in criminal justice or a master’s degree or Ph.D.

Margaret Rohrs ’70 poses with Nathan Roley, the Dennis Rohrs Band Scholarship recipient. Margaret’s husband Dennis served as director of bands and devoted 27 years to the UW-W community. Their scholarship supports a Department of Music student each year.

Gerald, Susan, Gregg and Jean Theune pose along with recipients Mariah Baker and Julie Beyer. The Warren and Virginia Theune Endowed Scholarship was founded by Professor Emeritus Warren Theune ’50 and his wife Virginia ’48. This scholarship is awarded to elementary education majors of junior or senior standing who demonstrate confidence and commitment to children in a clinical experience.

Margaret Rohrs ’70 passes with Nathan Roley, the Dennis Rohrs Band Scholarship recipient. Margaret’s husband Dennis served as director of bands and devoted 27 years to the UW-W community. Their scholarship supports a Department of Music student each year.
Student Support Services

WARHAWK EMERGENCY FUND

The Warhawk Emergency Fund provides just-in-time financial support to students who encounter unexpected obstacles such as a housing crisis, car repairs or medical bills. Emergency assistance helps students remain focused on earning their degrees. The Warhawk Emergency Fund, which started with a two-year grant, is transitioning to funding through a combination of donations and university funds.

“In my career as a university teacher I’ve worked with students who had to couch surf or live in shelters because they had no place else to stay. I’ve seen students coming in sick week after week because they couldn’t pay for healthcare. I had a student who couldn’t get his work done because he had a horrible toothache and couldn’t go to a dentist and another who came to class with a broken wheelchair as she waited to find money for repairs. Many of these students end up dropping out when a relatively small infusion of resources could keep them in school.”

—Dr. Lauren Smith, project director for the Warhawk Emergency Fund grant program

WARHAWK PANTRY AND WARHAWK SUCCESS CLOSET

Two new support programs — the Warhawk Pantry and Warhawk Success Closet — were launched due to student feedback and recurring areas of requests of support from the Emergency Fund. Since March of 2018, 233 students have received 7,970 pounds of food from the Food Pantry. The Success Closet provides students access to free professional and business appropriate attire. Located in the Career and Leadership Development Center, students can get one-stop support for their job search. They can acquire feedback on their resume, receive interviewing tips, and also walk out with an appropriate garment to wear for their interview. Since the launch of the Success Closet in Fall of 2018, 899 items of clothing have been shared with 298 students.

FOSTERING SUCCESS PROGRAM

An estimated 30 to 40 students age out of the foster care system each year before their freshman year at UW-Whitewater. The Fostering Success Program supports those students who lack the typical support system provided by an extended family and who would otherwise face the challenge of transitioning to college on their own. The Fostering Success Program finances direct services for students. It aims to address vulnerabilities these students experience to increase access to the life-changing opportunities that higher education provides.
Schuh Visiting Artists

The university has become a destination for visual artists of note, thanks to the Annette and Dale Schuh Visiting Artist Endowment, a $1 million gift from alumna Annette (Derge) Schuh ’71 and her husband, Dale. The 2018-19 Schuh Visiting Artists were four plein air artists from Beijing and one from Buffalo, who introduced students and faculty to traditional Chinese painting techniques. During their stay, they visited various art classes, demonstrating the techniques of traditional Chinese ink drawing/painting, oil painting, and art history.
Faculty Excellence

Our commitment to academic excellence is exemplified by a staff of teaching professionals who engage students in positive learning experiences. Many of those experiences take place inside the classroom, but some courses of study allow professors the flexibility to provide captivating, hands-on learning opportunities outside the classroom as well.

Among the professors who excel at offering such diverse opportunities is Dr. Rex Hanger, a professor in UW-Whitewater’s Department of Geography, Geology and Environmental Science. Hanger is the winner of the 2019 UW System Board of Regents Teaching Excellence Award, given in recognition of his work in the classroom and also for the experiential, hands-on learning opportunities he presents to students.

Another outstanding professor is George Jones, professor of economics-business at UW-Whitewater at Rock County, who received the 2019 W.P. Roseman Excellence in Teaching Award.

Program Excellence

The university’s online bachelor’s and MBA programs are perfect options for people who are looking to pursue professional development opportunities or to finish their degrees.

Since launching in 1998, UW-Whitewater’s online MBA program has gained widespread renown. It currently ranks No. 1 in Wisconsin among single-institution programs and No. 21 in the nation, according to “U.S. News & World Report.”

EDsmart.org has also named our online courses No. 6 in the top 30 online education programs in the United States. Rankings are based on affordability and return on investment, while also considering factors such as graduation and retention rates.

UW-Whitewater ensures that online learning is a rich experience for its students by providing them with access to academic advising, library services, financial aid, technical support, mentoring, and career placement services.
The UW-Whitewater American Marketing Association chapter has achieved more accolades than any other organization of its kind. The group was recently named the AMA International Chapter of the Year at the International Collegiate Conference, the eighth straight year that UW-Whitewater AMA has held or shared this title and the 13th time since 2001. This long-running streak is an impressive achievement, especially when considering that UW-Whitewater AMA is competing against more than 380 chapters worldwide.

UW-Whitewater has a strong presence in the world of collegiate forensics. A major intercollegiate speech and debate event will take place on the campus in April 2020, when more than 1,000 of the most talented public speakers from across the United States gather for the National Forensic Association championship tournament. About 70 teams from California to New York are expected to visit campus, where they will compete in 12 speech and debate events.

UW-Whitewater has distinguished itself in the area of media arts and game development. Competing against four teams of doctoral students, UW-Whitewater undergraduate students captured the top prize at the first-ever UltraHaptics Students Challenge in Pisa, Italy. The winning program, called “Hands of Time,” is a musical hand therapy game that physical therapy patients use to increase range of motion and dexterity.
Athletics is an important part of UW-Whitewater student life. Student athletes have excelled in a variety of sports, with football and gymnastics being particularly strong achievements.

WARHAWK FOOTBALL
The Warhawk football team had a 13-2 record and claimed its 37th Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship during the 2019 season. This was the 10th time in the last 15 years that the Warhawks made an appearance in the NCAA Division III championship game.

WARHAWK GYMNASTICS
Warhawk gymnastics placed third as a team at the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association Championship and garnered five All-America honors. Senior Franchesca Hutton, a journalism major, received her first-ever individual national championship.
Every day great things are happening around campus.
Are you ready to leave your legacy?

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