Intensive English Program a Success

Last fall, twelve students from Mexico spent four weeks at UW-Whitewater as part of Proyecta 100,000, an intensive English program sponsored by the Mexican government for its citizens to improve their language skills while immersed in U.S. culture. During the four-week program, students completed coursework on speaking and listening and reading and writing. They participated in cultural conversations with students in the English Language Academy, and explored the campus and community on excursions to the business district in downtown Whitewater and the Innovation Center. UW-Whitewater students in the American Marketing Association student organization and faculty advisor Carol Scovotti (Marketing) mentored the Proyecta students in their organization’s meetings, including participating in Homecoming activities. Melanie Schneider (Curriculum & Instruction), Lisa Huempfner (Languages & Literatures), Jodie Parys (Languages & Literatures), and Kim Adams (University Center) developed language partnerships and cultural activities between Proyecta students and UW-W students in classes and organizations.

The program culminated with a closing ceremony and a traditional Thanksgiving gathering, complete with a meal prepared by Tyler Salisbury, The Black Sheep chef/owner and UW-Whitewater alum. “I love this program,” one participant wrote. “I love this school and this campus. It was a great experience!” UW-Whitewater has been hosting Proyecta 100,000 students since 2014 and plans to welcome more students from Mexico in the future.
Early Childhood Education Project Showcase

Before graduation, many students share present final projects in class. Students in the ECE4U program also had the opportunity to highlight their work with the communities they work with. Tiffany Doberstein and Katy McClenaghan completed their final semester student teaching in the fall as part of the ECE4U program. This was their final experience to earn their Bachelor of Science in Education degree and dual Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction licenses in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education. As part of their student teaching, they planned and implemented integrated curriculum projects, meeting teaching standards in each course subject area around a central focus. On December 15, the day before the UW-Whitewater commencement ceremony, the ECE4U program hosted a Project Showcase, during which, students highlighted their integrated projects, including engaging interactive activities. Student families, friends, UW-Whitewater students, faculty, staff, and school district representatives were invited to attend. It was an excellent opportunity to celebrate the students’ hard work during their semester of teaching and graduation. Congratulations!

(UW-Whitewater photos/Craig Schreiner)
New Partnership with Local School District Fulfills Professional Development Needs

Recent changes in teacher licensure requirements have led the Jefferson School District to address professional development opportunities for its teachers. The district has partnered with UW-Whitewater to provide continuing professional development on site, with courses taught by university faculty and university-approved teachers in Jefferson. The program, similar to a cohort program in Mukwonago developed by Matt Vick, will allow teachers to develop their skills as educators in the convenience of their home district. “The curriculum has been designed by the district to meet their local priorities and professional development needs,” Vick said. “The cohort will allow Jefferson teachers to build a common knowledge base to help all of their students learn.”

The program is currently being finalized and waiting confirmation from the district on numbers of interested teachers. It will likely begin in summer 2018. Read more on the program in a recent article by the Daily Jefferson County Union here.

Another Full Fall for Camps and Conferences

Camps, festivals, conferences, and events filled the late fall months for the Continuing Education Services (CES) staff. In November nearly 100 young musicians participated in the 19th annual Fall Horn Festival and over 500 budding writers and teachers competed in the 34th Annual Creative Writing Festival. One hundred Emeriti faculty and their guests were welcomed back to campus at the annual Emeriti Luncheon, as were 220 participants at the National Black Student Union Conference for the second year in a row. CES hosed the fall and winter baseball clinics, welcoming close to 300 players to learn techniques from the nationally-recognized coaches and players from the Warhawk Baseball team. CES also hosted one of the region’s largest high school wrestling tournaments as the Mid-States Wrestling Tournament came to campus, where 43 teams and 383 wrestlers joined Wendall Bean and the Warhawk Wrestling team.
Celebrating First Doctor of Business Administration Graduates

On December 16, history was made at UW-Whitewater’s Winter Commencement. The first graduates of the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) program were hooded by John Chenoweth, dean of the College of Business and Economics. The first cohort of ten students completed their coursework in summer and fall of 2017, and participated in the commencement ceremony along with their dissertation chair persons. The DBA program began in 2015 and is a professional doctorate program that allows students to develop in-depth expertise in a specific business area. In addition to the ten DBA graduates, over 110 students earned masters degrees from the School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education this fall. For over 50 years, UW-Whitewater’s graduate programs have been offered to meet the vocational and professional needs of today’s evolving workplace. More information on the DBA program and other graduate classes and programs offered by UW-Whitewater, can be found at our web page.
Upcoming Events

- Single day music events, including Voice Day, String Expo, and Woodwind Mania, bringing promising young musicians to campus. More information on these events can be found here.
- Looking for professional development opportunities? Consider a certificate program in Effective Communication, Leadership, or Office Management.
- Since its implementation in fall 2017, the Warhawk Emergency Fund has served more than 65 students facing financial crisis. Help spread the word to students in need! Click here to learn more about the program, administered by Adult Student Outreach.
- Registration for popular summer athletic and music camps for youth will be open by February 1. Hurry, camps fill fast!
- Students will travel to cities and sites in the South during the Civil Rights History Tour this spring. Spaces are still available for this diversity class!