

WALSAA EXPRESS

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FRIENDS



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Field House Filled For WALSAA's Annual Tailgate Party

On Sept. 12, more than 300 CALS alumni and friends gathered at the UW Field House to cheer on the Badgers, support student scholarships and WALSAA activities.

This was the third year WALSAA held Fire-Up in the UW Field House, taking advantage of the great location adjacent to Camp Randall Stadium.

Tailgators were treated to music by Dr. Kaufman's band and some members of the UW band, UW cheerleading squad and Bucky Badger stopped by as well.

WALSAA raised \$11,473 with the annual silent auction, nearing the record high set two years ago. The UW Foundation will match \$10,000 of that to provide operational funding for the many scholarships and awards distributed by WALSAA each year. The 50:50 raffle was a success, generating \$1,131 total. WALSAA made \$565.50 and the lucky raffle winner generously donated \$100 from their \$565.50 winnings back to the auction.

The WALSAA annual meeting was held from 8-8:30 a.m. Liz Henry, WALSAA's president, provided a recap of an exciting year and board member nominees were entertained.

This year 200 international students joined the WALSAA Fire-Up as guests of the Wisconsin Alumni Association to see what an all-American football tailgate is like. They experienced what it is like to be a Badger on football Saturday, enjoying delicious Wisconsin food and beverages and taking in the sea of red filling Camp Randall Stadium.

December 2009

www.cals.wisc.edu/alumni

Farm and Industry Short Course celebrates 125 years...details inside.

This newsletter is sponsored by:


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Volume 39 - Issue 4



Scholarships! Scholarships! Scholarships!

Seasons Greetings to all CALS alumni, staff, students & friends! I am honored to be serving as your WALSAA president for the upcoming year and thank the WALSAA Board for their support.

First off, I'd like to thank our Past President Liz Henry for her commitment to WALSAA over the past two years. Liz has helped guide WALSAA through some fairly significant challenges and has positioned us for some exciting opportunities in the future. I'd also like to thank Merle Richter for his work as vice president and wish him the best as he moves off the board.

So what's my story? I was born, raised, and currently live in Illinois – yet I never seriously considered any other school other than UW-Madison. See, I come from a family of Badgers. My father (1963), and two of my sisters (1987 and 1992) are UW graduates. In addition, my wife received her masters degree just a few years ago. My first exposure to WALSAA was as a freshman in when I attended a CALS welcome social at Allen Centennial Gardens. I still have my WALSAA name tag from that day (it's stuck inside my SOAR folder) and I remember several other times during my time on campus when WALSAA was visible. In 1997 I received my degree in landscape architecture and joined The Brickman Group, Ltd., which I still work for today. I became a WALSAA life member in early 2005 and was asked to join the WALSAA Board shortly afterwards. It is a great feeling to give back to a college I love so much!

Recently, several candidates were considered to

join the WALSAA Board of Directors. We welcome Dave Welsh, Dave Fahey and Russell Rindsig who have been elected to three-year terms. The board then elected myself as president and Jill Makovec as vice president. Moving forward, the board is actively working to strengthen the core organization of WALSAA so that we can better support the CALS community. We have approved funding for our own website and have begun working with a website designer. The website is planned to "go live" in early 2010. There are other improvements on the way that I hope to share in upcoming issues of WALSAA Express. Stay tuned...

Improvements and changes are necessary for WALSAA's future, and so are the generous contributions by our supporters! Thank you to all of you who attended the recent Fire-Up in the UW Fieldhouse and to those who bid on the great selection of silent auction items. I also want to say thank you to those who volunteered their time for the event. The Fire-Up event is a key fundraiser, but annual contributions to WALSAA are also very important. Dean Jahn was recently asked the question "What does the college want from WALSAA?" and the answer was simple: "Scholarships! Scholarships! Scholarships!" Financial support from our great alumni and friends helps put WALSAA in the position to answer Dean Jahn's request. Should your situation allow, I ask that you consider a gift to WALSAA this holiday season. Various giving opportunities are further explained later in this newsletter. Thank you for your support of WALSAA.

ON WISCONSIN!!!

President Brian Fluno

Thank you for a tremendous opportunity



It is with great pride that I write my final note to the WALSAA membership. After graduating, I wanted to be a part of this board for 20 years because I enjoyed returning to campus, seeing friends and instructors at WALSAA events, contributing to WALSAA scholarships and supporting students, and being connected to the college and the network of friends and colleagues that I established while on campus. So serving and leading this board has been humbling and gratifying.

As I finish my second year as president, I reflect on two of the most challenging years in the history of our organization. WALSAA has undergone significant change. Rick Daluge's retirement prompted a reorganization in CALS that resulted in a new organizational structure for WALSAA and has demanded far more active participation from your WALSAA board than was ever experienced in our past.

I am pleased to report that your board rose to the challenges and made the needed changes as gracefully as possible. We are doing many things in new ways and are re-evaluating everything we do in WALSAA and the college. These are

A call to service



Dean's Message



When I had the privilege of joining CALS three years ago, I did so with great respect for the stature and accomplishments of this college and the agricultural and scientific communities that support it. There was no doubt in my mind that this community – from our students to our faculty and staff to our outstanding alumni – represented something unique in all of the U.S., a cradle of innovation and service that set an example for the nation.

Now, more than ever, I understand what that obligation means.

As many of you know, I have been given an extraordinary opportunity to serve as deputy undersecretary for research, education and economics in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Although I had (and have) no desire to leave CALS, I realized that this position was a call to service, and one not meant exclusively for me. It was a call to all of us to bring forward the leadership and vision that Wisconsin has so often provided in the past and is so keenly needed now.

The administration of USDA has been charged with bringing transformative change to an agency that sits at the center of so many critical issues facing our society – food and agriculture, the quality of our environment, health and nutrition, and our energy future. I believe that the work we have done in CALS and throughout Wisconsin can help create and sustain that change in ways that benefit society and support vibrant agricultural economies. So as I go to Washington, I am taking you all with me. You just don't have to

commute.

The only sad news is that accepting this appointment requires me to step away from a job that I truly love. Chancellor Martin has granted me a one-year leave from my duties as dean, and I do hope and intend to return to Wisconsin when my assignment is complete. In the meanwhile, CALS will be in skilled hands. The chancellor has appointed Irwin Goldman, our extremely talented vice dean, as interim dean. I'm also pleased to share that Ray Guries, an esteemed professor of forest and wildlife ecology with an exemplary record of service to the college, has agreed to serve as interim vice dean and associate dean for research.

I have nothing but absolute confidence in Irwin and Ray as they guide the college during the next year. They are gifted leaders and scholars who have earned the respect of our faculty and staff, students, alumni and stakeholders, and I know that under their guidance the college will continue to achieve great things.

Finally, I just want to say thank you to all our WALSAA members who have stood by the college through times of abundance and triumph and the harder times, too. The WALSAA community includes so many of our most enthusiastic and faithful supporters, and so many of you have reached out personally to wish me well on this adventure. I thank each and every one of you who have shared your talents and time, your financial support and your perspectives on our future with me. Here's to what comes next!

Thanks, and On, Wisconsin!

Dean Molly Jahn

challenging economic times forcing everyone to do more with less. Your board and I honored the WALSAA vision and mission and continued to strive for excellence in our performance, our students and future alumni and in our support of the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences. WALSAA is going strong, largely due to the sturdy foundation it was built upon and the many caring and unselfish hours members have donated to make this a perpetual resource for all CALS alumni to return to the college, our friends and fellow alumni; encourage future alumni to share the Wisconsin Idea and to revive and cultivate the relationships made with and through our college.

Thank you for your fortitude and dedication. Please continue contributing your time, advice and expertise to WALSAA to maintain our preeminent status as one of the most dedicated alumni groups on campus. Make WALSAA the very best it can be. Thank you for allowing me to serve our membership in this capacity. Thank you previous board members, Rick Daluge and the College for creating and sustaining an organization that is meaningful and that I am proud to be a part of and thank you all current and future students and alumni for continuing this legacy of participation and fellowship.

Past President Liz Henry



Fire-Up 2009

Thank You Silent Auction Donors & Buyers

Donations received from:

Accelerated Genetics
 AgSource Cooperative Services
 Animart
 Badgerland Financial
 Valerie Breunig
 Brickman
 CNH - Case New Holland
 Sue Crane
 Crave Brothers Farmstead Cheese
 Dairyland Seeds
 Daluge Travel
 Steve Dierks, Coloma Farms
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 Bob and Lisa Hagenow
 Marcy Heim
 Liz Henry, Henry Farms
 Herbert Kohl Charities
 Nancy Horan
 Mary Ellen Karls
 Lodi Sausage Co.
 The Madison Concourse Hotel
 Madison Symphony Orchestra
 Mike Marr, Valley View Farms, LLC
 Duane and Kay Mass
 Merial
 Overture Center of the Arts
 Pineview Vet Clinic
 Scott Rasch, Rasch Farm
 Bryan Renk
 Rural Route 1 Popcorn
 Birdie Schiller
 Sheraton Madison Hotel
 Mark Sherry
 Tyrol Basin Ski & Snowboard Area
 UW Forestry Club
 WALSAA
 Weedman Lawncare
 Wilson Family
 Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board
 World Dairy Expo

Highest bidders:

Dave Bloom
 Marilyn Boland
 Kent Carnahan
 Dave Daniels
 Karen Elver
 Kim Flitcroft
 Betsy Ganshert
 Paul Ganshert
 Mike Garvey
 Pete Giacomini
 Bob Hagenow
 Charlie Hammer
 Shannon Hayes
 Dan Hein
 Liz Henry
 Connie Hoisington
 Deb Holden
 Eric Johnson
 Karen Lee
 Kenneth Lezow
 Ralph Lezow
 Mike Manthey
 Andrea McGowan
 Beverly McGowan
 Mike Meulter
 Brian Nodolf
 Steve Pamperin
 David Rischmueller
 Nick Sarbacker
 Martin Seffens
 Carl Smith
 Mike Soley
 Janine Veto
 Matt Vick



FISC 125th Reunion



FISC
Corner

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the Wisconsin Alumni Association invite you to the Farm & Industry Short Course 125th Reunion.

Saturday, January 30, 2010
The Alliant Energy Center, Exhibition Hall
1919 Alliant Energy Center Way
Madison, Wisconsin

Registration and Social – 11:30 a.m.

Polka music provided by Bob Kauffman and the Ambassadors

Luncheon Buffet and Program – 12:15 p.m.

Speakers and appearance by members of the UW Marching Band

Post-Reunion Social – 2:00 p.m.

Wisconsin cheese, beer, soda and cash bar

RSVP with the formal invitation mailed separately to FISC alumni or online at <http://uwalumni.com/shortcourse125>. The cost for the reunion is \$20 for alumni and friends and \$18 for current students who register by Jan. 20. Tickets will also be sold at the door for \$25.

If you wish to stay for the night, the following hotels are recommended: Clarion Suites Madison (onsite hotel): (608) 284-1234; Sheraton Madison: (608) 251-2300; Holiday Inn Express: (608) 255-7400.

For more information about the reunion, call (608) 263-3918 or e-mail fisc@cal.wisc.edu.

125th Short Course Year Underway

By Andrea Brossard Martin
FISC Alumni President

This year's Farm and Industry Short Course session is well underway. There are a 135 enrolled for 2009-2010. There are 104 first year students and 31 second year students.

More than \$100,000 in scholarships were awarded to students attending the program this year.

Three CALS Students on UW-Madison Homecoming Court

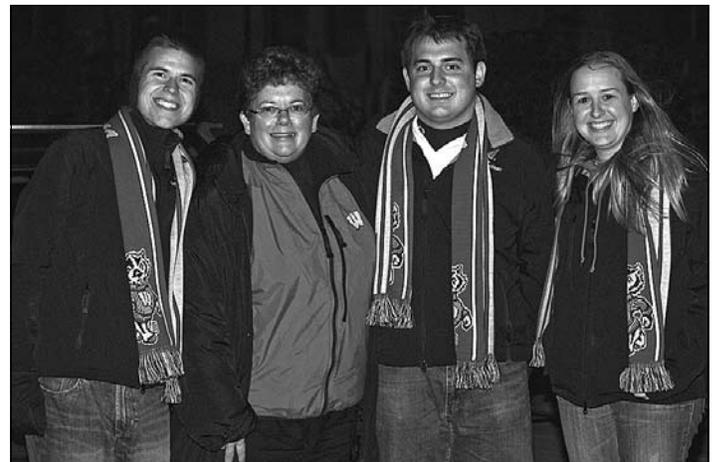
By Corey Geiger

CALS was well represented on the UW-Madison Homecoming Court with three students on the 10-person court representing the entire University. Alex Newman, Andy Mulrooney and Stephanie Paull were selected based on their academic achievements, campus activities, and their community involvement. Their selection is a great honor given the fact there are 2,439 undergraduate students in CALS and 28,692 undergraduate students on the entire UW campus.

Alex Newman is a senior majoring in genetics. He hopes to attend medical school to become either a pediatrician or clinical geneticist. On campus, the Menomonee Falls native is a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and is the philanthropy and sponsorship co-chair for UW-Humorology. In addition, he is secretary of CALS Ambassadors and is a nursing unit volunteer at Meriter Hospital.

Andrew Mulrooney is a senior majoring in ag business management. He recently has accepted a job from Ecolab in its food and beverage division. The Bagley native currently serves as president of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. Mulrooney also serves as a CALS Ambassador and is an employee at the UW Meat Science Lab.

Stephanie Paull will graduate in December 2010



Shown at the end of the parade route a day prior to the Homecoming game at Camp Randall was: Alex Newman, UW Chancellor Carolyn "Biddy" Martin, Andy Mulrooney and Stephanie Paull.

and is pursuing a summer internship on the financial side of agriculture. After graduation, she will be looking for a job in ag finance. On campus, the Ridgeway native serves as president of the Association of Women in Agriculture (AWA). In AWA, she has co-chaired the food for AWA's Breakfast on the Farm and has served as alumni coordinator and house steward in previous years. Paull also has served as vice-president of the Agricultural Business and Economics Club.



WALSAA Giving Opportunities

The list below details specific opportunities to make a gift to WALSAA. Please take a few moments to reflect on your experience at the college and consider how support from WALSAA may have helped your situation. Your contribution enables WALSAA to benefit many people's lives.

CALS AMBASSADORS: This fund supports the CALS Ambassadors, which is a student organization that promotes undergraduate recruitment. CALS students take on leadership roles to support various events and activities. Send a donation directly to the UW Foundation (Attention: WALSAA Ambassador Fund).

WALSAA ADVISING AWARDS: This fund supports advising awards given directly to faculty and staff in recognition of outstanding service to CALS. Send a donation directly to the UW Foundation (Attention: WALSAA Advising Fund).

WALSAA GENERAL PROGRAMMING: This important fund supports the daily operations of WALSAA enabling the organization to communicate with members, hold meetings, and sponsor alumni events. Send a donation directly to the UW Foundation (Attention: WALSAA Fund).

WALSAA MATCHING SCHLORSHIPS: This fund supports scholarships for CALS students with gifts matched by the UW Foundation. Donations of \$250 or more will be awarded in the name of the donor. Send a donation directly to the UW Foundation (Attention: WALSAA Matching Scholarship Fund).

Contributions over \$500 will enroll you in the CALS Dean's Club. Gift receipts will be sent directly from the UW Foundation and all contributions will be recognized in a future edition of the *WALSAA Express*. For more detailed information or if you would like to consider a gift to WALSAA in your estate planning, contact Brian Hettiger at the UW Foundation, (608) 265-5893 or brian.hettiger@uwfoundation.wisc.edu. Thank you for your generous support!!!

Make your check payable to University of Wisconsin Foundation and mail to:
UW FOUNDATION – US BANK LOCKBOX 78807
Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807

Join WALSAA at Culver's Camp Randall Hockey Classic

Be a part of the excitement when the football field is turned to ice.

Culver's Camp Randall Hockey Classic - Feb. 6, 2010

Wisconsin will be hosting the Culver's Camp Randall Hockey Classic on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010 at Camp Randall Stadium. This event will serve as the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame game, with the women's hockey team facing off against Bemidji State at 2 p.m., followed by the men's hockey team facing off against Michigan at 5 p.m. To purchase game tickets at \$25 per person, go to www.uwbadgers.com.

Warm up with WALSAA & friends at the National W Club Tailgate Event*

UW Field House - Doors open at 2:30 p.m.

There will be music by West Side Andy and special appearances by Christopher the Magician and Mike Leckrone & the UW Marching Band. Enjoy brats, sausage, cheese, chips, cookies, beer and soda with UW Legends and sports heroes, including Barry Alvarez, Bucky and the UW Spirit Squad. Games televised on big screen TV's. There will also be a raffle including a framed Adam Burish jersey, framed USA hockey jersey and other great prizes. To order tickets in advance at \$20 per adult and \$10 per child 12 and under, visit www.nationalwclub.com. or call (608) 265-5965.

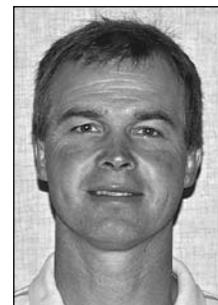
*This event is hosted by National W Club. WALSAA has identified it as a place for fellowship and will not financially benefit from member attendance or raffle proceeds.

Meet Dave Welsh - New WALSAA Board Member



WALSAA Board

Dave Welsh graduated from UW-Madison in 1990 with a degree in ag economics. He started his career with Cenex/Land O' Lakes as a crop production specialist in River Falls. In 1995, he moved to Elkhorn to work in the same position for Cooperative Plus, Inc. in East Troy and then became a location manager for them. In 2002, Dave had the opportunity to take a job with AgriGold Seed Company where he currently works as a crop production specialist. His sales area includes eight counties in southeast Wisconsin working with growers on their seed corn needs.



Dave Welsh

Through his job at AgriGold, Dave has been able to stay in touch with fellow alumni who are customers and stay in contact with other alumni through work events. He says he believes WALSAA is an important organization for alumni to stay in touch with the University. At the last Fire-Up, Dave was impressed to see our outgoing Dean of Agriculture, Molly Jahn, visiting with the alumni that were present. Events like the football Fire-Up and Farm Technology Day picnics are ways that alumni can get together socially but also to have a way to communicate with representatives from the College of Ag. He would like to see these events continue to be a strong bond between the College and one of its best resources – its alumni.

Dave has been married to Kris for 18 years. She manages Complete Staff, a staffing business in Elkhorn. Their children include Megan, 16; Alanna, 14; and Nathan, 10.

Dave spends his spare time coaching his children in several sports, including soccer and football for the Elkhorn youth recreational teams.

WALSAA Board of Directors

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Dec. 20	Fall Commencement ■ Kohl Center
Jan. 30	FISC 125th Reunion ■ Alliant Energy Center
Feb. 6	WALSAA Board Meeting ■ WDE Office
Feb. 6	Culver's Camp Randall Hockey Classic ■ Camp Randall

Upcoming WALSAA Events