



## WALSAA Brew Crew Bash a grand slam

Close to 60 WALSAA members and friends joined together in the ATI Club at Miller Park to cheer on the Milwaukee Brewers as they battled against the Colorado Rockies on April 20. A special thank you goes out to M&I, a part of BMO Harris Bank, for helping to sponsor the event.

A silent auction was held with all proceeds to be used to support the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) and Farm and Industry Short Course scholarships, fund the CALS Ambassadors program and sponsor the annual CALS Leadership Retreat.

A WALSAA Football Fire-Up Package including two football tickets, two luncheon tickets and a WALSAA t-shirt, valued at \$150 and donated by WALSAA, went to Tom Janczewski for \$205. The second package donated by WALSAA, included a WALSAA Lifetime Membership and Fire-Up t-shirt. The winning bidder was Valerie Breunig for \$200.

The opportunity for a private luncheon with new CALS Dean Kate VandenBosch (valued by WALSAA as priceless) was won by Valerie Breunig for \$260. Larry Pfeil had the highest bid for a special Milwaukee Brewer package including two Club-

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Wisconsin Agricultural  
and Life Sciences  
Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 5177  
Madison, WI 53705-5177  
PHONE (608) 438-1994  
E-MAIL [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org)  
WEBSITE [www.walsaa.org](http://www.walsaa.org)

# President's Message: Don't miss out on opportunities

WALSAA President Jill Makovec



This issue pays tribute to all the students WALSAA was able to support this year. Thank you for your generous donations that allow WALSAA to impact the lives of so many students. In the next few pages you will meet 10 exceptional four-year students honored as Outstanding Sophomores. In addition, we recognize several elite Farm and Industry Students that have excelled both in and out of the classroom. And, don't forget the advisors that teach, mentor and collaborate with these students. Read about this year's Outstanding Advisor, who also happens to be a WALSAA Lifetime Member!

By now, I am sure you have received our 40th Anniversary mailing. If you are a lifetime member, we appreciate your loyalty to WALSAA. However, this year more than ever, we could use your help. In honor of our anniversary, we have created the WALSAA 40th Anniversary Fund. This is an outgrowth of a need conveyed to us by both students and the Dean's Office.

While WALSAA sponsors the CALS Leadership Retreat, there were no funds available for the next step – taking ideas created at the retreat and helping them come to fruition. Therefore, all the money raised for this fund will be offered to student organizations as grants in the next academic year. If it is a new student organization looking to get started or a current organization in need of seed money for a new project, WALSAA would like to help these organizations achieve their goals. I encourage all lifetime members to consider a gift to this one-time fund in support of CALS student organizations. If you have not given to WALSAA in a while, here is a unique, one-year opportunity for you to support.

Another component of our anniversary mailing is the membership drive. Remember, in honor of our anniversary, we are offering special pricing for this year only. Join WALSAA at the annual rate of just \$40 per year, or at the lifetime rate of one installment of \$400. WALSAA memberships make great graduation or birthday gifts as well! Are your college friends lifetime members of WALSAA? If not, now is the time to encourage them to

apply. With all the exciting things happening this year, you don't want to miss out on being a member!

Speaking of exciting things, mark your calendars for the WALSAA Football Fire-Up on Saturday, Sept. 15. For the first-time in WALSAA history, this event will take place preceding a night game! With a 7 p.m. kick-off, we are thrilled to have the entire afternoon to celebrate WALSAA, the College and, of course, the Badger football team. Tickets are on sale now, but quantities are limited. Be sure to get your reservations in today!

Additionally, this year the Dean's Brunch will be combining with the Football Fire-Up. We are happy to partner with CALS and the Dean's Office to hold this joint event. The festivities will begin mid-afternoon, so don't miss your chance to connect with fellow alumni, meet our new dean, Kate VandenBosch, and honor the 40 in 40 award winners!

If you missed the Brew Crew Bash in April, you don't have to wait all summer for your next WALSAA event. This summer, Farm Technology Days is in Outagamie County, and Fox Valley Technical College has graciously offered to host our picnic. Bring the family, join us for dinner and take in a Wisconsin Timber Rattlers game. More information on this event is located on page 5.

WALSAA has much to be thankful for, but one of the most important is the leaders that have served the organization in the past. Throughout the year, I have enjoyed learning more about the milestones in our organization's history. Turn to pages 10 and 11 for a look back at WALSAA's growth in its second decade. It was during this time that WALSAA created the CALS Ambassadors, started the annual Farm Technology Days Picnic and established the first scholarship endowment fund – all elements we still continue today.

The year is flying by, but we are enjoying every minute of it. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee or serving on the Board, please contact us. We have lots more exciting things to do in our next decade and could use your help. On Wisconsin!

# CALS Message: Listening to our students

CALS Dean & Director Kate VandenBosch



These past few months have been my welcome to Wisconsin – the first time since my postdoctoral days that I've been able to spend a lot of time here. And as I've met with stakeholders here on campus and begun to travel around the state, I've been fortunate to have had such knowledgeable people share with me their insights, concerns and hopes for agriculture and the life sciences in Wisconsin, across a broad spectrum of stakeholder perspectives and interests.

Many of those people were you – WALSAA members who care deeply about the future of CALS. You are so generous with your time and resources in helping the college flourish, as I was able to observe firsthand at your annual luncheon honoring recipients of your Outstanding Sophomore Awards and CALS Ambassadors.

There and on other occasions, I've felt fortunate to spend time with another group of stakeholders who care deeply about our future – our students. They rolled out the welcome wagon my first week here, when I was invited to an open meeting sponsored by the CALS Student Council. They wanted to know about my background and thoughts about the deanship. And then we moved on to an open Q&A session. I was impressed by their astute, wide-ranging questions.

One suggestion they had is to form a student advisory council to the dean. I like that idea. This would allow time to talk with our student leaders about what's on their minds and for me to convey information about the kinds of things that come across the dean's desk and decisions the college has to be making. We are planning the first meeting prior to the end of the semester.

And I offered a suggestion of my own – Caffeine with the Dean. This is a less formal opportunity to interact with students – with coffee on hand, of course! – that I've seen work well in Minnesota. Sometimes we'll issue invitations to particular student groups and other times it will be wide open, with a few agenda items to keep a productive conversation going.

I find it energizing to interact with students. They come up with creative ideas that I wouldn't have thought of on my own. Those of us who are in faculty or staff positions know what we think is important in instruction and curricula and student experiences – but we need to have the students' word about what is important to them. What's making an impact on them, what do they wish they had an opportunity to do?

I would like for CALS to continue providing and improving upon innovative educational opportunities for our students – to be known as the place where worlds open up to our students, where students are given the skills and leadership experiences to find great placements in their professions and go on to do great things in their careers.

Serving as that life-changing place for students is wonderful as an end in itself. But we also know that students who participate in governance often become very dedicated to their college. They become our alumni leaders of the future.

And that is so valuable to all of us.  
On Wisconsin!

## Help complete WALSAA's archives

In honor of our 40th anniversary, WALSAA is looking for past issues of our WALSAA Express newsletter – especially those from the '70s and '80s.

If you have copies of these issues, and would be willing to donate them to WALSAA, please mail them to P.O. Box 5177 Madison, WI 53705-5177. Include your name and address, and you will be entered in a drawing to win two tickets to the WALSAA Football Fire-Up luncheon.

# FISC Corner: UW–Madison Short Course graduates honored

FISC Alumni President Andrea Brossard

A number of new graduates of the University of Wisconsin – Madison Farm and Industry Short Course received special recognition during the program's graduation ceremony held March 24 in Union South.

Among those recognized were recipients of three awards presented by the Wisconsin Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Association (WALSAA).

WALSAA Outstanding FISC Student Awards are presented to first- and second-year FISC students who have demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership and service to the university and their community. These students received a \$500 financial stipend to apply toward their Short Course tuition.

WALSAA Activity and Leadership Awards were given to selected students for exceptional work related to FISC activities and leadership.

WALSAA Academic Awards went to first- and second-year students who earned a 3.75 cumulative GPA or higher.

Also recognized were students who had volunteered as Short Course Ambassadors, a group that helps promote the program to prospective students and assists at FISC events, and the FISC class president Brittany Breunig of Portage.



WALSAA Outstanding Student Award – left to right: Short Course Director Ted Halbach; Interim Associate Dean Sarah Pfatteicher; Brett Hildebrandt, Hustisford; Brittany Breunig, Portage; CALS Dean Kathryn VandenBosch; and Short Course Alumni Board President Andrea Brossard. Not pictured: Carrie Devine, Cottage Grove; and Michael Buitter, Fox Lake.



WALSAA Activities and Leadership Award – left to right: Short Course Director Ted Halbach; Interim Associate Dean Sarah Pfatteicher; Brett Hildebrandt, Hustisford; David Smits, Markesan; Lindsay Lainberger, DeForest; Shane Adams, Stevens Point; Anthony Hass, Manawa; CALS Dean Kathryn VandenBosch; and Short Course Alumni Board President Andrea Brossard. Not pictured: Cory Brown, Belleville.



WALSAA Academic Achievement Award – left to right, front row: Interim Associate Dean Sarah Pfatteicher; Luke Luchterhand, Granton; Andy Larsen, Lone Rock; Seth Schmidt, Elkhorn; Anthony Hass, Manawa; second row: Short Course Director Ted Halbach; Jared Bradt, Black River Falls; Gregory Zimdars, Ripon; Ethan Malski, Byron Center, Michigan; CALS Dean Kathryn VandenBosch; and Short Course Alumni Board President Andrea Brossard. Not pictured: Cory Brown, Belleville; Carrie Devine, Cottage Grove; Nathan Handzel, Cottage Grove; Jordan Hargarten, Clinton; Kevin Hildebrandt, South Beloit, Illinois; Michael Kaltenberg, Sun Prairie; and Brent Payne, Sullivan.

# WALSAA Farm Technology Days Annual Picnic planned for July 18

UW-Madison's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Farm & Industry Short Course graduates are invited to attend the annual Wisconsin Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Association (WALSAA) Farm Technology Days Picnic.

It will be held Wednesday, July 18, from 3 to 8 p.m. at the Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) in Appleton. Brats, burgers, salads, soda, beer, milk and dessert will be served. No reservations are needed and friends and family are welcome! Tickets to the picnic are just \$15 per person at the door.

That same evening, the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers baseball team will be playing just across the street from the picnic site. In addition to "Dollar Beer Night," there is a group area for alumni groups and Farm Technology Days participants. First pitch is scheduled for 7:05 p.m. Parking is available at FVTC and you can walk across a footbridge to the game.

If interested in attending the baseball game, e-mail [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org) or call (608) 438-1994 by June 13 to order your tickets. Game tickets are \$7 each and can be picked up at the WALSAA picnic.

The 2012 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days will be held in Outagamie County. Mike Bruette and Jeff Handschke of Sugar Creek Farm LLC and John P. Heideman and John A. Heideman of Heideman Farms will be hosting the statewide event in New London.

To get to FVTC from Farm Technology Days: take Hwy 45 south around New London using the bypass to Hwy 15/State Rd 45. This will take you into Appleton. In Appleton just past I-41 turn right on N Bluemound Dr. FVTC is located .4 miles down on your right.

WALSAA is looking for several volunteers to help with the picnic. If you would like to help the day of, contact WALSAA at (608) 438-1994 or [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org)



## New treasurer sought

Over the past few years, Bob Kaczmarek has graciously served as WALSAA's treasurer. He did a lot of great work in our transition years, and we appreciate his commitment to WALSAA and the Board of Directors. Now, Bob is looking to take on some new responsibilities. We have enjoyed working with him, and want to give him the flexibility to pursue these other interests.

As a result, WALSAA is currently looking for a new treasurer. This person would be responsible for paying bills, recording deposits made, managing the WALSAA funds held by the UW Foundation and assisting with budgeting. If you have ideas for nominees, please share those names with Sam Miller, WALSAA vice president, at [sam.miller@micorp.com](mailto:sam.miller@micorp.com).

# WALSAA Football Fire-Up gears up for afternoon event!

The 37th annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up tailgate party and auction will be held at the UW Foundation building at 1848 University Avenue on Saturday, Sept. 15, prior to the Badgers versus Utah State football game at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available for the football game and/or the luncheon itself.

As in years past, Fire-Up 2012

will feature the WALSAA Silent Auction to raise money to support scholarships, awards, activities and more. WALSAA's annual meeting will be held prior to the Fire-Up luncheon.

This year's Fire-Up will also recognize those individuals selected as the WALSAA 40 in 40 honorees and for the first time ever, will be teaming up with the CALS

Breakfast with the Dean, uniting all CALS alumni for an unforgettable event!

Please plan to join WALSAA for this wonderful opportunity to connect with the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, CALS alumni and fellow WALSAA members to network and share your Badger pride. To order tickets, use the form on the following page.

## Volunteers wanted

Spring is here, and with spring kicks off WALSAA's annual planning efforts for another amazing fall Fire-Up tailgate party.

Fire-Up will be held Sept. 15 during the mid to late-afternoon, with kick-off at 7 p.m.

Just like last year, the tailgate will be held at the UW Foundation, just a couple blocks from Camp Randall's front gates. WALSAA is specifically seeking you help to help plan this great annual tradition. With high attendance anticipated, we need your guidance in meeting member expectations again this year!

If you would like to take the opportunity to assist in the planning and set-up of the 37th annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up, contact WALSAA at admin@walsaa.org or (608) 438-1994.

Thank you in advance for your time and commitment to WALSAA.

## WALSAA t-shirts available at Fire-Up

Show off your support for WALSAA with this long-sleeved t-shirt. Perfect for fall football weather, this t-shirt will be available at the WALSAA Fire-Up.

The shirt is black with white lettering and offered in the following sizes: small, medium, large and x-large.

You may purchase one of these exclusive WALSAA long-sleeved t-shirts in advance for \$15 each using the order form on page 7. WALSAA will then have it waiting for you when you arrive at the annual tailgate party on Sept. 15.



# 2012 WALSAA Football Fire-Up order form

## WALSAA Football Fire-Up • Saturday, Sept. 15 Starts mid-afternoon • UW Foundation building

Please fill in ALL information below to complete your registration.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (required to receive additional e-mail correspondence): \_\_\_\_\_

Event	Cost	# of Tickets	Total
<b>Game Day Package*</b> Fire-Up Luncheon** & Wisconsin vs. Utah State tickets Kick-off at 7 p.m. (max. 6 tickets per request)	Adults: \$75 Child 3-11: \$65 Child under 3: Free***	Adult: ____ Children 3-11: ____ Children Under 3: ____	\$
<b>Fire-Up Luncheon</b> Luncheon** Tickets Only	Adults: \$30 Child 3-11: \$20 Child under 3: Free	Adult: ____ Children 3-11: ____ Children Under 3: ____	\$
Fire-Up T-Shirts See page 6 for more information.	\$15 per shirt	Small Qty ____ Medium Qty ____ Large Qty ____ X-Large Qty ____	\$
Make checks payable to WALSAA. Mail registration and payment to WALSAA at P.O. Box 5177, Madison, WI 53705 <b>Registration deadline is Sept. 5.</b>			Additional 100% tax deductible donation to WALSAA. \$
			Total Cost \$

List Names for Fire-Up Nametags: \_\_\_\_\_

All football and Fire-Up Luncheon tickets will be available at the "Will Call" table. Tickets will NOT be mailed.

Fire-Up Luncheon tickets will be for sale at the door for \$35 adults and \$25 for children.

\* Badger Football tickets are available only as a Game Day Package deal with Fire-Up Luncheon tickets.

\*\* \$15 of each luncheon ticket is a gift of support to WALSAA and is 100% tax deductible.

\*\*\*Children Under 3 must sit on the lap of an adult football ticket holder during the Badger game.

For additional information, please contact WALSAA.

Phone: (608) 438-1994; E-mail: admin@walsaa.org; or visit us on the web at www.walsaa.org

# Tee off with friends at WALSAA's Fire-Up Golf Outing Sept. 14

Mark your calendars for the second annual WALSAA Fire-Up Golf Outing that will be held on Friday, Sept. 14 at The Bridges Golf Course ([www.golfthebridges.com](http://www.golfthebridges.com)), 2702 ShopKo Drive in Madison.

Play will be best ball to aid both experienced and in-experienced golfers. Sign up to golf with existing

or new friends. Whether you played last year or not this is truly an opportunity for WALSAA members and friends to get together and play some golf the day before the 37th annual Fire-Up.

Tee times will start around noon and exact tee times will be communicated to all golfers once

registration has been closed. The cost is \$60 per golfer with \$10 of that fee being a tax-deductible donation to WALSAA.

Register at (608) 438-1994 or [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org) by end of day Aug. 31. Sign up as an individual or in a group. Payments can be made directly to WALSAA.

## Brew Crew Bash cont.



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level game tickets and a Brewers sweat-shirt, donated by the Milwaukee Brewers and Jill Makovec. Pfeil's winning bid was \$161.

The Wisconsin State Fair donated a Fair Fun Package complete with four adult single-day admissions

tickets, four SkyGlider tickets and four giant slide tickets. Al Herrman had the winning bid of \$175. Monica Donahoe had the highest bid of \$65 for the Rural Route 1 Brewer Fan Basket, donated by Brian Nodolf. The package included five flavors of popcorn, Brewer plates and napkins,

a Brewers coffee mug and coffee and a \$25 gift card to the Rural Route 1 store.

All together, the silent auction raised \$1,066 to benefit CALS students! Thank you to everyone who attended and helped support the silent auction.

# WALSAA 40th Anniversary in full swing



WALSAA Marketing & Development Committee Chairwoman Marjorie Stieve

As we enter into the second quarter of this calendar year and move up on the halfway mark of the WALSAA 40th anniversary celebration it seems like time is flying by for us helping to plan this year's celebration. Although, perhaps those who helped found WALSAA look back and feel much the same about the last 40 years. With every WALSAA committee, board meeting, event and interaction with our members that I get the opportunity to have, I think it's safe to say that WALSAA is 'aging gracefully.'

Over the last couple of months we reached out with phase one to more than 11,000 members and prospects. Our coordinated three-pronged campaign focused on updating our current members, recruiting new ones and spreading the word about our 40th-related endeavors. With WALSAA in a transition period over the last few years this mailing was an excellent opportunity to update key stakeholders, re-engage with past participants and reach out to numerous individuals with ties to the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences and the Farm & Industry Short Course. Following are updates on the three 40th anniversary campaign efforts.

### Recognition Campaign – WALSAA: 40 in 40 Impact Awards

A selection committee is busy working evaluating the number of nominations that have been received. Several factors are being considered. We were heartened by the enthusiasm and recognition alumni, students and faculty have displayed in nominating individuals who they feel have made a significant difference. We are looking forward to announcing the 40 individuals and honoring them as part of the Sept. 15 WALSAA Football Fire-Up event.

### Fundraising Campaign – WALSAA Innovation Grants

Contributions to the new "WALSAA Innovation Grants" in recognition of our anniversary continue to come in. The new grants will be awarded to CALS student groups proposing new, innovative projects to benefit the College and its members. A special committee of WALSAA alumni and CALS Student Council members will be setup to oversee the grant selection process. It is not too late to donate! Our goal is to raise at least \$14,000 to support four grants starting next year.

### Membership Campaign – Special 40th Membership Rate

Welcome to all the new members of WALSAA who have taken advantage of our special anniversary rate of \$40 for an annual and \$400 for a lifetime. The special, which runs until the end of this calendar year, has generated interest from many individuals. We're looking forward to including you within this special CALS enthusiast family and know that our organization and the College will benefit from your engagement.

### This is the Year

Whether you've been joining us year after year or haven't attended Fire-Up in a number of years – this is the year to attend. Mark Sept. 15 on your calendar and fill out the ticket order form on page 7 of this newsletter. I can't think of a better way to help us mark this important milestone of our organization than being part of what is sure to be an exciting birthday bash event!

# A look back at WALSAA: 1983-1992

**“A special welcome to you who have joined this year. Your participation, support, and ideas as with all members is vital to WALSAA's continued growth and service.”**

—Written by WALSAA President Frank Wing in a 1983 WALSAA newsletter



CALS Senior Reception held in the Animal Sciences lecture hall in 1983.

## WALSAA continues growth with events

WALSAA began its second decade by hosting the 1983 National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association (NAADA) conference. Special highlights included a barbecue at Kaltenberg Seed Farm near Waunakee, a bus tour of the UW-Madison campus, tour of American Breeders Service in DeForest and a tour of Arlington Experiment Farm.

WALSAA continued to host area meetings around the state. Members also came together to attend Brewer Fever and Green Bay Packer tailgate parties. In addition, WALSAA launched the Farm Progress Days (now Farm Technology Days) Picnic and annual golf outings.

Fire-Up remained the flagship event, drawing 900 to 1,000 people each year. In 1984, it became a fundraising event with \$2 earmarked for scholarships from every ticket sold. The first year raised \$1,750, which was then matched by the UW Foundation. The Fire-Up silent auction was started in 1988 with 24 items raising more than \$3,500. By the end of the decade the auction included 44 items and \$11,300 was generated for scholarships through donations and auction purchases.

## WALSAA Presidents

Frank Wing, 1983

Mark Masters, 1984

Al Herrman, 1985

Stan Bird, 1986-88

Norm Everson, 1988-90

Monroe Miller, 1990-92

## Life at CALS

- Short Course Dean & Director Maurice E. White retired in 1983 after 15 years in the position. He was succeeded by Assistant Dean and Placement Director Richard H. Daluge.
- The Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station's 100th Anniversary Celebration was held in Madison on March 24, 1983.
- In 1983, Dean Leo Walsh held a groundbreaking ceremony for the long-awaited Swine Research facility at the Arlington Experiment Station. The barn was dedicated in the winter of 1984.
- More than 600 spectators attended the 1983 dedication of the new veterinary school facilities on the UW-Madison campus.
- Farm and Industry Short Course celebrated its centennial in 1985.
- In 1986, Horticulturist Brent McCown was first to insert a gene for herbicide resistance in to a woody plant and the first to regenerate a woody plant from a single leaf cell.
- In the spring of 1989, CALS celebrated its centennial. Guest speakers included Emeritus Dean Glenn S. Pound and UW Chancellor Donna Shalala.
- Roger Wyse is selected as the ninth dean of CALS and begins his new role in August of 1992.

## WALSAA Milestones

JUNE 1983

**FFA State Farmers acknowledged.** WALSAA initiated a reception for Wisconsin State Farmer degree recipients at the State FFA Convention in Green Lake. It was hosted by UW-Madison ag instructors.

MAY 1984

**Alumni begin hand-delivering CALS scholarship certificates** to students at high school award programs. It's a great way to show prospective students that College offers what most big schools can't: personal attention.

OCTOBER 1984

**WALSAA's first picnic.** WALSAA hosted its first-ever Farm Progress Days Picnic in conjunction with the statewide event held in Jefferson County. (Farm Progress Days is now known as Farm Technology Days.)

MAY 1988

**Helping rural residents learn to lead.** In 1986 the Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program was created to help rural people learn about the complex political and social issues facing rural communities and to help them take leadership roles. WALSAA supported the program by providing scholarships for WALSAA members enrolled in the program.

AUGUST 1990

**WALSAA establishes scholarship endowment.** The 1989 CALS Centennial spurred the WALSAA Board of directors and UW Foundation to kick off a special fund drive. The goal of \$250,000 was exceeded and the WALSAA Scholarship Endowment was formed to support several WALSAA scholars each year.

MAY 1991

**WALSAA begins hosting several golf outings** each summer as yet another way to generate funds. The golf



The 1984 WALSAA Fire-Up attracted nearly 1,000 people and was the first time the event was used as a fundraiser.

courses selected will be among Wisconsin's best and each will be managed by a CALS graduate.

JUNE 1991

**Promoting careers in agricultural science.** The College wants to be a strong player in Wisconsin's high-school science programs. To this end, WALSAA sponsored the 4-H Agri-science World, a four-day program on the campus exploring agricultural science study opportunities.

OCTOBER 1991

**Keeping in touch.** In 1991, a group of alumni reworked the WALSAA newsletter. The redesigned version is sent five times a year to members and occasionally to nonmembers. WALSAA is also on its second edition of the CALS alumni directory.

APRIL 1992

**We send out ambassadors.** Want to know what it's like to be a CALS student? Ask a CALS student. That's the principle behind the WALSAA-sponsored CALS Ambassador program. The Ambassadors are CALS undergrads who visit high schools and host high school students visiting campus.

# CALS Outstanding Sophomores honored by WALSAA

WALSAA Scholarship Committee Member Jenny Dierickx

WALSAA recently awarded the 2012 Outstanding Sophomore Awards. Recipients received a \$2,000 scholarship and join an elite group that represents the "who's who" in the UW science and agriculture communities. There were a total of 66 applicants, 22 interviews and 10 awards given.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Bryan Renk said the quality of students that applied for the scholarships this year were extremely high and made the decision-making process for the scholarship committee very difficult. "We were very, very impressed with the future generation's leadership potential," Renk said.

Read on to learn more about the 2012 winners:

## Rachael Baird

Rachael Baird is majoring in genetics with a certificate in global health. After finishing her undergraduate degree, she plans to attend medical school.

Rachael is the academic chair of the Undergraduate Genetics Association and an active member of many other organizations, including CALS Ambassadors and Alpha Epsilon Delta, a pre-med honor society.

She works in a breast cancer research lab on campus and volunteers at the American Family Children's Hospital. Her most rewarding experience at the university has been

a three-week study abroad trip to Uganda where she learned about health and nutrition in the country.

"I would like to extend tremendous gratitude to WALSAA for this award. The financial compensation will make it possible for me to continue to pursue the great opportunities offered by the university and CALS specifically," Rachael said.

## Taylor Fritsch

Taylor Fritsch is studying agricultural economics and life sciences communication. He grew up on his family's 700-acre dairy and grain farm near Cobb.

On campus he is involved as an officer of the Collegiate Farm Bureau, Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, and the UW Saddle & Sirloin club. He is also a CALS Ambassador. Taylor hopes to pursue a career in agricultural policy or communications.

"Thanks to the WALSAA organization for recognizing leaders and providing financial support to students in CALS," Taylor said.

## Susan Hodgson

Susan Hodgson is studying food and dairy sciences. Working at World Dairy Expo through Badger Dairy Club and Breakfast on the Farm through the Association of Women in Agriculture are her two favorite activities on campus. She is also involved with Sigma Alpha and Saddle and Sirloin.

"I am honored to be named an Outstanding Sophomore and greatly appreciate WALSAA's support and encouragement," Susan said.

## Emily Lingeman

Emily Lingeman is a biochemistry major from Brookfield. She is the vice president for Circle K, which is the collegiate form of Kiwanis. She is also a fellow in the Undergraduate Research and Mentoring program sponsored by the Institute for Biology Education and the National Science Foundation. This program supports her research in the Record Lab in the Department of Biochemistry.

This spring, Emily participated in an alternative break to Detroit where she served on an urban farm designed to bring fresh food into the poor neighborhoods. This summer, she will be a part of a summer research program through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University.

"I want to thank WALSAA for their support in my academics and endeavors on this campus. I am honored to receive this award and look forward to making my next two years at UW-Madison even more successful than the first two years," Emily said.

## Kayla McKaveney

As a freshman, Kayla McKaveney joined the CALS Health and Research Society (CHARS) and became a CALS Ambassador. This year she expanded

her roles, holding leadership positions in the Undergraduate Biochemistry Student Organization, CALS Student Council and CHARs.

Kayla has been accepted into a CALS study abroad program. This summer, she will be performing research at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

"This astounding, yet unpaid, opportunity makes receiving this scholarship especially meaningful to me," Kayla said.

## Hannah Meier

Originally from Chanhassen, a suburb of the Twin Cities in Minnesota, Hannah Meier is majoring in dietetics and psychology. She serves as the secretary for the Dietetics and Nutrition Club on campus, and she works part-time as a food service assistant at St. Mary's Hospital.

Hannah volunteers with the kitchen staff of Independent Living Inc., as well as the Slow Food UW organization on campus.

"I am honored to receive this scholarship from WALSAA and take to heart the encouragement members of the alumni have so graciously given in support of my academic and professional pursuits," Hannah said.

## Erika Muehlenkamp

"Thank you WALSAA for helping me become involved in my college before I graduate!" said Erika Muehlenkamp, a microbiology major



2012 WALSAA Outstanding Sophomore Award Winners – left to right: Kayla McKaveney, Erika Muehlenkamp, Hannah Meier, Emily Lingeman, Taylor Fritsch, Saraniya Sathiamoorthi, Rachael Baird, Susan Hodgson and Stacey Ruffolo. Not pictured: Jordan Riley.

from Vernon, Wisconsin.

On campus, Erika is involved with Microbiology Club and is an officer with the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society.

She works with the Institute for Biology Education and runs a science outreach program at Spring Harbor Middle School while also mentoring for the Middle School Science Symposium. She also works in the Filutowicz Laboratory in the Bacteriology Department studying novel alternatives to antibiotics using social soil amoeba.

Off campus, Erika continues to be an active member in Girl Scouts and stays involved with her church.

## Jordan Riley

Jordan Riley of Darlington is majoring in agricultural and applied economics and life sciences communications. He is involved with his family's cow/calf operation, show cattle operation and assists in running 3,000 acres of corn.

On campus, Jordan is the public relations officer for Badger Dairy Club, a director at-large for Collegiate Farm Bureau, and a student council representative for Saddle and Sirloin. He is also involved with the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, as well as a CALS Ambassador.

This summer he plans to work with Helena Chemical Company as a sales and marketing intern in Minnesota.

"It is truly an honor to be selected as a CALS Outstanding Sophomore and this would not be possible without WALSAA and their recognition of hardworking students," Jordan said.

## Stacey Ruffolo

Stacey Ruffolo hails from Downers Grove, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. She is majoring in genetics with a certificate in global health. As a member of GlobeMed, an organization that raises money and awareness for its partner grassroots organization

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# WALSAA awards Outstanding Advisor

The winner of this year's WALSAA Outstanding Advisor Award is Roger Sunde of the Department of Nutritional Sciences.

Sunde has been a faculty member in the Department of Nutritional Sciences for the past six years and chair of the Department for four of them. He earned both his bachelor's degree in biochemistry (1972) and his doctorate in biochemistry (1980) from UW-Madison.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he advises 30 students. While his research specializes in studying the essential trace element selenium (Se), he realizes scientific research is not what the vast majority of undergraduates will pursue. Therefore, he has spent considerable time to understand the dietetics field so he can work with each of his advisees on his or her specific goals.

If his advisees are not admitted into the program, Sunde helps them work through the disappointment and identify another program that suits their interests. Sunde exemplifies the qualities of an outstanding teacher and advisor.

According to one nominator, "Perhaps what the



Presenting the WALSAA Outstanding Advisor Award to Roger Sunde on April 25 were, left to right, Jill Makovec, WALSAA president; Sunde; and CALS Dean Kate VandenBosch.

students see first in Dr. Sunde is his ever-present positive attitude. He never seems to let other issues keep him from greeting his advisees with a smile and a question or two about their day."

Sunde is a proud WALSAA lifetime member.

The award was presented by WALSAA at the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Awards Program on Wednesday, April 25.

## Outstanding Sophomores cont.

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the Cambodian Organization for Women's Support (COWS), she is on the Community Building Team. This team plans volunteer activities around Madison.

Stacey is also involved in breast cancer research in the lab of Wei Xu in the McArdle Cancer Research facility. She is working on a project with her graduate student mentor that looks at the effect of a new phase II clinical trial drug on Estrogen Receptor (ER) positive and ER negative breast cancer cells.

"I just want to thank WALSAA for honoring me with this award. I am so thankful that wonderful alumni contribute so much to their Alma mater and current Badgers!" Stacey said.

### Saraniya (Nia) Sathiamoorthi

Nia Sathiamoorthi grew up in Woodbury, Minnesota, with a passion for science and writing. Currently, she is studying life sciences communication and pharmacology/toxicology.

She is an undergraduate researcher at the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research. Nia also writes science

articles for the *Daily Cardinal* and hopes to become science editor next year. She is the undergraduate representative on UW's Council on Academic Advising and volunteers weekly as a literacy tutor for struggling high school students.

"I am truly honored to be selected for the WALSAA Outstanding Sophomore award," Nia said. "This award is both a personal and financial gift. I feel proud to be part of this amazing community at CALS and look forward to making great connections."

# Alumni updates

**Glenn Helgeland BS '67**, founder of Target Communications, was honored with the 2012 Cabela's Lifetime Business Achievement Award. Cabela's Inc. President Tommy Miller presented the award to Glenn and his spouse, Judy. Glenn and Judy founded Target Communications in 1980. The company has produced numerous hunting-focused publications, as well as created the four largest deer and turkey expos in the U.S.

**Thomas Albrecht BS '76** was honored by the Natural Resources Board for his 34 years of exemplary service to the DNR. Tom's service to the forestry industry began in 1976. Since retirement, Tom has continued his passion with his own business as a private consultant forester. Tom is a proud board of director for WALSAA and an excellent advocate.

**Christopher Salm BS '76**, CEO of the meat processing company Salm Partners, and **Carl Laveck BS '67**,

executive vice president of Denmark State Bank, were among 71 businesses nationwide to be honored at a White House event for creating jobs in rural America.

Crave Brothers Farmstead Cheese of Waterloo, run by **Mark Crave BS '88** and his brothers **Charles, George and Tom – all graduates of CALS' Farm and Industry Short Course** – recently received an Innovation Zone Award from the Dairy Business Innovation Center (DBIC). Their farm uses 100 percent green power and is a carbon negative company, producing more power from an on-farm biodigester than it can use for its dairy and cheese plant.

**Mark Daluge, BS '03**, has been named landowner programs coordinator for the Tenton County Weed and Pest District in Jackson, Wyoming. This position focuses on the administration of programs to aid landowners in invasive species management efforts.

## In memoriam

Allan Brooks BS'71

## WALSAA seeks board nominations

Have you thought about getting more involved in WALSAA? Here's your chance!

WALSAA is looking for Board of Director nominations. Elections will take place at this year's annual meeting held in conjunction with Fire-Up. Directors elected by the membership must be alumni of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and WALSAA annual or lifetime members. Directors serve three-year terms and can serve no more than two consecutive terms – six years total.

If you are interested in a position on the Board, contact WALSAA at [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org) or (608) 438-1994 with your name and phone number.

## WALSAA Board 2011-2012

**Jill Makovec '00, '02 - 2014**  
President  
Madison, WI

**Sam Miller '84 - 2013**  
Vice President  
Appleton, WI

**Bob Kaczmarek '80**  
Treasurer/Ex-Officio  
Kenosha, WI

**Andrea Brossard '01, '05**  
FISC Alumni President  
Beaver Dam, WI

**Shruthi Murali**  
Student Rep  
Madison, WI

**Brian Hettiger '90**  
UW Foundation/Ex-Officio  
Madison, WI

**Maria McGinnis**  
CALC Career Rep/Ex-Officio  
Madison, WI

**Heidi Zoerb**  
CALC Rep  
Madison, WI

**Tom Albrecht '76 - 2012**  
Shawano, WI

**Dale Beaty '87 - 2014**  
Milton, WI

**Valerie Breunig '86 - 2013**  
Waunakee, WI

**Jenny Dierickx '05 - 2013**  
Madison, WI

**Dave Fahey '72 - 2012**  
Belleville, WI

**Al Herrman '77 - 2014**  
Green Bay, WI

**Karen Lee '03 - 2013**  
Edgerton, WI

**Brian Nodolf '80 - 2012**  
Livingston, WI

**Bryan Renk '83, '85 - 2014**  
Sun Prairie, WI

**Russell Rindsig '68, '69, '73 - 2012**  
Sarona, WI

**Sara Schoenborn '10 - 2014**  
Fitchburg, WI

**Marjorie Stieve '91 - 2013**  
Madison, WI

**Dave Welsh '90 - 2012**  
Elkhorn, WI

Visit [www.walsaa.org](http://www.walsaa.org) to view biographies and contact information for each of the Board members.



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**[www.walsaa.org](http://www.walsaa.org)**

## Upcoming Events

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>July 18</b>  | <b>WALSAA Farm Technology Days Picnic</b>           |
| <b>Sept. 14</b> | <b>WALSAA Fire-Up Golf Outing</b>                   |
| <b>Sept. 15</b> | <b>WALSAA Annual Meeting &amp; Football Fire-Up</b> |