



Fire up for WALSAA Football Fire-Up on Sept. 10

The 36th Annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up and silent auction will be held at the University of Wisconsin Foundation parking lot (1848 University Ave, Madison) on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., prior to a classic Big Ten versus Pac 12 match-up between our Badgers and Beavers of Oregon State. This is a great opportunity to meet with old friends and be a part of the excitement that comes with being a Badger.

This year we return to our outstanding outdoor location at the UW Foundation parking lot, located just a few blocks away from the stadium. The event, sponsored by Merial Ltd. and AgriGold, features appearances by some of the University's most notable game day entertainers.

In addition, a silent auction will be held to raise money to award scholarships to CALS outstanding sophomores and outstanding students within the Farm and Industry Short Course program. Highlights of the silent auction include week-long lodgings in Hawaii, Montreal and Door County; various Badger sporting event tickets; a pedal tractor; local wine gift sets; and various gift certificates.

The WALSAA annual meeting will be held at the start of Fire-Up, from 8 to 8:30

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President's Message: My favorite time of year

WALSAA President
Jill Makovec



I can't believe summer is nearing an end. It seems like yesterday that I was telling Mother Nature I was tired of the cold, wet spring that was dragging on. Well, this summer's hot weather certainly made up for that!

But, with the end of summer, comes football season – my favorite time of year on campus and for WALSAA! After the championship season last year, I'm hoping that the Badgers can repeat again this year. Don't miss your opportunity to cheer on our favorite team, and tailgate with fellow CALS alumni, at the 36th annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up. WALSAA is building on the success it experienced with this event last year, and we hope you will join us for the fun and fellowship.

With rave reviews from the 2010 event, Fire-Up returns to the UW Foundation parking lot on Sept 10 as the Badgers take on the Oregon State Beavers. Logistically we have made some changes but the elements you have come to love will remain the same – Wisconsin Brats, Potatoes Olé, and of course Miller Lite! Don't let the early game time deter you from attending. We will begin serving food and beverages at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude at 10:30 a.m. – giving you plenty of time to make it to Camp Randall for kick-off. However, game tickets are limited. If you haven't secured yours already, make your request soon!

While Fire-Up is a great opportunity to have fun and reminisce with friends, it also serves an important role in WALSAA's support of CALS. Fire-Up's silent auction is WALSAA's primary fundraiser each year, and the money raised provides funds for the CALS Outstanding Sophomores and the FISC Scholarship award winners. Without your support, these awards would not be possible. This year our goal is to raise \$12,500. The UW Foundation graciously will match up to \$10,000 raised, and by combining these funds WALSAA could award 10

Outstanding Sophomore Awards and five FISC awards in 2012. Some of the 2011 award recipients are featured in this newsletter. Read about their exceptional accomplishments and what receiving a WALSAA scholarship meant to them.

To improve the quality and diversity of this year's silent auction, board members have been hard at work securing new items. A partial list appears in this newsletter and many more items will be available at Fire-Up. If you have an idea for a silent auction item or have something you are willing to donate, contact WALSAA at admin@walsaa.org. In the meantime, check out the auction list as it stands today and consider being a successful bidder at this year's event.

If you are planning to be in town for the Sept. 10 game day weekend, WALSAA has even more events in store for you. On Friday, join us at the Bridges for an afternoon of golf with fellow WALSAA supporters and friends or join WALSAA board members and Fire-Up volunteers for set up Friday evening from 6 until 8 p.m. in the UW Foundation parking lot. Not getting into town until later, meet up with fellow CALS alumni at the Blue Moon for some pre-Fire-Up festivities.

Whether we see you in town for Fire-Up or if you can't make it this year, WALSAA appreciates your continued support. As a Board we have worked to make WALSAA your CALS Connection and support the students that represent the future in the agricultural and life sciences industries. Thank you for your contributions to WALSAA. With your support, we can continue to strengthen our role with the college and fund new opportunities to support the students within it.

Hope to see you Sept 10, and don't forget to order your WALSAA Fire-Up t-shirt! On Wisconsin.

CALS Message: Fostering the budding scientist

CALS Interim Dean & Director
William F. Tracy



Every day I am reminded of the value of CALS. Scientific advancements here improve our world. But among all CALS' achievements, nothing makes me prouder than the difference we make to young scientists by offering them opportunities for hands-on research.

Consider the experience of one student, Michael Crossley, whose work with a local spinach farmer "sealed the deal" for him professionally, he says. The farmer's crops were under attack by a centipede that feeds on plant roots. Crossley was tapped to help as an independent research project under the mentorship of Entomology Professor Eileen Cullen.

"I came up with a simple and novel approach – heating the infested beds with solar radiation," Crossley says. "The essentially zero-cost strategy was implemented with great success and, two years later, the farmer told me there's still no infestation."

At that time, Crossley was only a sophomore; he just won a national prize from the Entomological Society of America for that work. And another research project in which he participated resulted in an article in *Soil Biology and Biochemistry*. Crossley's co-authors: CALS Entomology Professor Richard Lindroth and Research Scientist Timothy Meehan.

Obviously Crossley, now pursuing graduate work at CALS, is an amazing student, but his experience is more common than you might think. Half of CALS' graduating seniors report having worked on a research project with a faculty member outside of a course requirement. Like Crossley, many of them found that their research experience solidified their decision to pursue science careers.

That rate of undergrad research is higher than at any other UW-Madison College, but there's still much room for improvement. As the National Academies' Bio 2010

report states, "All students should be encouraged to pursue independent research as early as is practical in their education."

We can work together to provide financial support in the form of grants, awards and paid internships for the roughly half of CALS undergraduates who do not engage in research. As the giving season approaches and we think of ways to make CALS stronger, I hope you'll consider funding opportunities for our youngest scientists. It's one of the most valuable investments we can make in our future.

Thank you, and On, Wisconsin!

WALSAA to hold annual meeting on Sept. 10

The WALSAA Annual Meeting will be held at the WALSAA Football Fire-Up at 8 a.m. Current WALSAA supporters are invited to attend. In addition to electing Board nominees, this year's meeting will include a vote on changes to the organization's by-laws.

The last update to the by-laws took place in October 2008. Since then, WALSAA has spent a significant amount of time formalizing its identity, as well as the role it plays in collaboration with CALS and the UW Foundation. The by-law changes do not fundamentally change the organization's function or structure. Instead, it only accurately reflects how WALSAA has operated the past few years and plans to operate in the future.

Updated by-laws will be available at the meeting. If you would like to receive a copy of the proposed by-law changes prior to the meeting, contact Jill Makovec, WALSAA president, at jillmakovec@uwalumni.com or (608) 513-5605.

Get your WALSAA wear

Show off your support for WALSAA with this newly designed long-sleeve t-shirt. Perfect for fall football weather, this t-shirt will be available at the WALSAA Football 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-sleeve t-shirts for \$15 each using the order form on page 6. WALSAA will then have it waiting for you when you arrive at Fire-Up on Sept. 10.

Order your WALSAA t-shirt and Fire-Up tickets on page 6. Hurry up! They're going fast.



Fire-Up cont.

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a.m., where business will be conducted and elections held for new board members.

Don't miss this opportunity to see Bucky in historic Camp Randall Stadium in what could be another championship season. Only a limited number of tickets are still available for the football game, as well as Fire-Up.

The cost for both the Fire-Up luncheon and game is

\$72 for adults; \$62 for children 3 to 11; and ages under 3 are free. If you'd rather not attend the game or already have game tickets, Fire-Up luncheon tickets are \$30 for adults; \$20 for children 3 to 11; and free for those younger than 3 years old. \$15 of your ticket price is a 100 percent tax-deductible donation to WALSAA.

Tickets will go fast so secure yours today! See page 6 for details.

Items up for auction at WALSAA Football Fire-Up

Here is a partial listing of items that will be up for auction at Fire-Up. To see the full spread, attend the event on Sept. 10.

ITEM: An Igloo Icy Tunes cooler and stuffed cow
 VALUE: \$170
 DONOR: ANIMART

ITEM: A mixed case of Gold Medal winning wines from Botham Vineyards
 VALUE: \$125
 DONOR: Botham Vineyards & Winery

ITEM: A one year platinum membership to Babcock Cheese of the Month Club
 VALUE: \$200
 DONOR: CALS

ITEM: A Steiger 600 Pedal Tractor
 VALUE: \$216
 DONOR: Case IH

ITEM: One-week of summer/fall lodging for up to 10 people in Montreal, Wis. Valid any time June through October, except July 4th or Labor Day weekends.
 VALUE: \$350
 DONOR: Rick & Peggy Daluge

ITEM: A one-night stay in Deluxe level with breakfast for two
 VALUE: \$150
 DONOR: Doubletree Hotel of Madison

ITEM: A pair of tickets to a 2011/12 season Madison Symphony Orchestra concert
 VALUE: \$117
 DONOR: Madison Symphony Orchestra

ITEM: One Fraiser Fir Christmas tree
 VALUE: \$75
 DONOR: UW Forestry Club

ITEM: \$125 certificate of retail advertising and one-year subscription for The Country Today
 VALUE: \$160
 DONOR: The Country Today

ITEM: A one-week stay at The Manney Place from June 8-15, 2012. Note: If bid exceeds \$1,000, the package also includes a 1/2-day Lake Michigan salmon fishing experience for up to five on boat.

VALUE: \$1,500
 DONOR: Tom Wilson Family

ITEM: A 3-bottle wine gift basket
 VALUE: \$35
 DONOR: Wollersheim Winery

ITEM: A World Dairy Expo gift basket
 VALUE: \$75
 DONOR: World Dairy Expo

ITEM: One week stay at time share, located at Princeville on the garden island of Kauai, Hawaii. Two bedroom, sleeps 6.
 VALUE: \$2,500
 DONOR: Kay and Duane Mass

ITEM: Two UW Badger football tickets - game TBD
 VALUE: \$178
 DONOR: Jere and Anne Fluno

ITEM: Set of two UW Men's Hockey season tickets – Friday night series
 VALUE: TBD
 DONOR: Steve Dierks, Coloma Farms

ITEM: Set of two UW Men's Hockey season tickets – Friday night series
 VALUE: TBD
 DONOR: WALSAA

ITEM: Set of two UW Men's Basketball season tickets
 VALUE: TBD
 DONOR: Birdie Schiller

ITEM: Set of two UW Men's Basketball season tickets
 VALUE: TBD
 DONOR: WALSAA

2011 WALSAA Football Fire-Up order form

WALSAA Football Fire-Up • Saturday, Sept. 10 • 8-10:30 a.m. • 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
Game Day Package* Fire-Up Luncheon** & Wisconsin vs. Oregon State tickets (max. 6 tickets per request)	Adults: \$72 Child 3-11: \$62 Child under 3: Free***	Adult: _____ Children 3-11: _____ Children Under 3: _____	\$
Fire-Up Luncheon 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 4 for more information.	\$15 per shirt	Small Qty. ____ Medium Qty. ____ Large Qty. ____ X-Large Qty. ____	\$
<p>Make checks payable to WALSAA.</p> <p>Mail registration and payment to WALSAA at P.O. Box 5177, Madison, WI 53705</p> <p>Registration deadline is Aug. 31.</p>		Additional 100% tax deductible donation to WALSAA.	\$
		Total Cost	\$

List Names for Fire-Up Nametags: _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities before, during or after the event.

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, contact WALSAA at (608) 438-1994 or admin@walsaa.org

Pre-Fire-Up festivities planned

WALSAA Golf Outing Sept. 9

WALSAA will be holding a golf outing on Friday, Sept. 9, at The Bridges Golf Course (www.golfthebridges.com) at 2702 Shopko Drive in Madison. Tee times will be between 12 and 1 p.m., based on availability. Exact tee times will be finalized once a full count is received.

Not a good golfer? Don't golf daily? Don't worry this outing is meant to be an opportunity for WALSAA supporters and friends to gather and play some golf before the 36th annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up. With that said we have decided to make the outing a "best ball tournament." Members of the winning team will receive a glamorous WALSAA t-shirt gift.

The cost is \$60 per golfer with \$10 of that fee being a tax-deductible donation to WALSAA. To register, either as an individual or with a foursome, contact, Amy Ryan at (608) 438-1994 or admin@walsaa.org by **Aug. 31**.

The rounds of golf should be completed in time for anyone interested in helping set-up for Fire-Up that evening.

WALSAA supporters and friends are also planning to gather at the Blue Moon on University Avenue that evening. See the announcement below.

Volunteers wanted

WALSAA is looking for those interested in fellowship through service to volunteer at its annual fundraising event. WALSAA Football Fire-Up raises thousands of dollars each year for scholarships and that achievement wouldn't be possible without hard workers that help organize and work at the event.

This year a crew will begin event set-up at 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9. Even more plan to arrive early on Saturday, Sept. 10, and a dedicated group will miss kick-off to be sure everything is cleaned-up.

If you are interested in helping, please contact WALSAA at (608) 438-1994 or admin@walsaa.org for more details.

Post-Golf, Pre-Fire-Up social at Blue Moon

Fire-Up volunteers, golfers and anyone else in town for the evening is welcome to join fellow WALSAA supporters for an informal social at the Blue Moon on old University, Friday, Sept. 9 beginning at 8:15 p.m.

Whether you are hitting the links at The Bridges, assisting with Fire-Up set up from 6 to 8 p.m., or extremely dedicated and doing both, stop by the cash bar for socializing with fellow alumni.

WALSAA's Farm Technology Days Annual Picnic was a big hit



Dan Schaefer (back right), WALSAA 2011 Outstanding Advisor Award recipient, and Rick Daluge (back left), past CALS Assistant Dean, sit down to dinner with a table full of WALSAA supporters and their friends and family.



Acting Superintendent at the Marshfield Agricultural Research Station, Mike Bertram, and his family displayed their WALSAA and Wisconsin Badger pride.



Members of the UW-Madison chapter of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) join in the fun of WALSAA's Farm Technology Days Picnic.



Tom Albrecht, WALSAA Board of Director, shows WALSAA's youngest FTD Annual Picnic attendees a leopard frog.

The 2011 WALSAA Farm Technology Days Annual Picnic, on July 13, was a big hit!

More than 150 WALSAA supporters, friends and family enjoyed delicious food, sunny weather and wagon tours at the Marshfield Agricultural Research Station (MARS), located in Stratford.

The great location was the perfect setting in bringing together the UW-Madison's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Farm & Industry Short Course alumni.

MARS is located just minutes from the Farm Technology Days host farm, Seehafer Acres, in Marshfield.

WALSAA is grateful to the MARS staff for all of their efforts in assisting in the coordination of this great WALSAA tradition. We would also like to thank those

specific individuals for their in-kind donations to our event, including: Gaylen Guyer of Land-O-Lakes, and Mike Bertram and Nancy Esser of MARS.

Each year, Wisconsin Farm Technology Days travels to a new location in the state. Future Farm Technology Days locations include:

2012 – Outagamie County, July 17-19

2013 – Barron County, July 17-19

As the show moves, so does the WALSAA picnic. If you or someone you know is interested in carrying on the WALSAA Farm Technology Day Annual Picnic tradition as a picnic host in Outagamie County, please contact WALSAA at admin@walsaa.org.



Marshfield Agricultural Research Station provided wagon rides for more than 150 WALSAA supporters, friends and family throughout the afternoon and evening to view the property and learn more about their set up and research process.

Get to know the Outstanding Sophomore Award recipients

Earlier this year, WALSAA presented 10 Outstanding Sophomore Awards thanks to money provided by WALSAA supporters and bidders at the 2010 Fire-Up Silent Auction. Each student received a \$2,000 scholarship for use in his or her junior year. In this issue of WALSAA Express you can learn more about five of the recipients.

Jennifer Holle

Q: Why did you choose to attend the UW-Madison?

HOLLE: Opportunities at Madison, such as research and internship options that would allow me to gain an edge over other students from different universities caught my attention. The idea that I could work for some of Wisconsin's most innovative thinkers enforced this decision.

Q: What is the greatest learning experience you have had at UW-Madison?

HOLLE: Two hands-on dairy science classes offered by Professors Michel Wattiaux and Milo Wiltbank offered real life lessons of dairy management that were informative as well as innovative. They made me realize how committed I am to improving the dairy industry, both now and in my future career.

Q: Who or what is your inspiration?

HOLLE: I gain inspiration from watching Wisconsin's dairy farmers become more innovative in their ideas concerning milk production and how they handle being under constant watch of the public.

Q: What are your career plans?

HOLLE: After this coming year of undergrad studies I will be attending UW-Madison's School of Veterinary Medicine where I plan to pursue a career in food animal medicine.

Q: What has this scholarship meant to you?

HOLLE: This scholarship has given me the opportunity to continue my education here at UW-Madison as well as become more informed of WALSAA's generous contributions and influence on the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences here at Madison. The CALS alumni involved in this organization truly care about supporting current CALS students.

Lauren Holterman

Q: Why did you choose to attend UW-Madison?

HOLTERMAN: I chose to attend UW-Madison because of the exceptional food science program, as well as the small school atmosphere in CALS on a large campus. I also love football game days!

Q: What is the greatest learning experience you have had at UW-Madison?

HOLTERMAN: The greatest learning experience I have had at UW is that I am able to excel academically AND be very involved in a variety of organizations on campus. I have also learned that ANYTHING is possible if you put your mind to it and dedicate yourself to something you believe in and are passionate about.

Q: Who or what is your inspiration?

HOLTERMAN: My grandma, Rose Holterman, is my inspiration. She raised seven children, helped run a farm, worked part-time, is an amazing chef, and has a strong faith. She inspires me to work hard and be generous with my time and my talents.

Q: What are your career plans?

HOLTERMAN: My dream is to own a successful company where I can combine my passions for dairy farming, food, marketing, and public relations: I want to make ice cream! I plan to have an ice cream factory and store where I make premium ice cream in unique flavors, utilizing the high-quality milk from the cows on my dairy farm.

Q: What has this scholarship meant to you?

HOLTERMAN: It is an honor to be recognized by the alumni of CALS, and to have the support of this organization throughout my college career. Receiving the Outstanding Sophomore Award validates the hard work that I have put in thus far in my college career and inspires me to continue on the path I have chosen.

Bryan Menapace

Q: Why did you choose to attend UW-Madison?

MENAPACE: My decision was based on a couple of reasons. Since I was born and raised in Michigan, it was in a close competition with the

U of M. Madison ended up winning in the end mostly because it offered a perfect environment for me to grow and thrive, offering a fresh start in a new place. It is also fantastic academically, athletically; and what other campus in this country has nature in one direction, and the capitol of the state in the other?

Q: What is the greatest learning experience you have had at UW-Madison?

MENAPACE: "All men make mistakes, but only wise men learn from their mistakes." Winston Churchill. My disappointing grade point my first semester was really all the motivation I needed to vastly improve my grades and put myself on the path for medical school.

Q: Who or what is your inspiration?

MENAPACE: My father is one of the kindest and greatest people I know. His words are best spoken through his action, and I hope to one day have the privilege to follow in his footsteps.

Q: What are your career plans?

MENAPACE: I plan to attend medical school after graduating in 3.5 years with a major in biochemistry and a certificate in business.

Q: What has this scholarship meant to you?

MENAPACE: It has taught me I can accomplish anything I can put my mind, too. It also made my parents proud, which takes a lot and really means a lot to me.

Xiaoyi Qu

Q: Why did you choose to attend UW-Madison?

QU: It is a big challenge for me to study abroad. I made this decision because I want to experience a new study environment other than Beijing where I've been living for 18 years. I became interested in biology in high school, so I paid attention to colleges that are good at life sciences and research in the U.S., such as UW-Madison. Then I chose to study here because it has beautiful lakes and affordable tuition.

Q: What is the greatest learning experience you have had at UW-Madison?

QU: The greatest learning experience would be studying in a research lab since I was a freshman. I've never thought about it before but a

research university like UW-Madison provides such opportunity for me. Doing research makes me decide on continuing study of biology as my career, and also helps later study in biology courses.

Q: Who or what is your inspiration?

QU: My father is my inspiration. He did his PhD study in Europe when I was 5. It was the first time that I knew there could be further study in research after college and that more choices are available outside China. In middle school and high school, he encouraged me to think about future plans and career goals. When I was making big decisions such as studying abroad and majoring in biology, I always ask his opinion because he never decides for me, but provides useful information and lets me think independently.

Q: What are your career plans?

QU: I plan to go to graduate school or medical school but still focusing on biomedical related research, such as the treatment for cancer. I'm also interested in the application of biology to pharmaceutical or food sciences. It would be interesting to use scientific progress to improve our health care and food industry. Since I want to continue research, I would prefer working in universities or institutions, and contribute to the scientific communication between China and the U.S.

Q: What has this scholarship meant to you?

QU: This scholarship is very meaningful for me. It not only demonstrates the academic achievements and community service I did in these two years, but also provides some financial aid for my family. It is an encouragement for me that I can adapt to this brand new environment and engage in the community by doing service works. I also feel good to be able to pay some of the tuition by myself rather than asking for money from my parents.

Kevin Yeska

Q: Why did you choose to attend UW-Madison?

YESKA: I decided to attend Madison because I knew it provided the best education in the state and was the only university with landscape architecture as a major in Wisconsin. My sister, who is a few years older than myself, attended Madison. Because of this, at a young age, I was able to come visit her and see the campus as well as the rest of the city and

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Alumni Updates & Outstanding Sophomores cont.

Dale E. Boness, BS '61, WALSAA vice president '97, member of the Wisconsin Lions Diabetes Focus Group teamed up with Washington Lion Andrea Lanxon, to design a float for the International Lions Convention Parade that was held on July 5. The float focused on raising awareness about diabetes and Lions involvement with the effort.

Alan Gunderson BS '77, MS '79, was recently named chairman-elect of the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA). Gunderson, who serves on the executive committee, will assume the top role starting in May 2012. His duties during his tenure as chair will focus on providing leadership to the 50-plus member board, speaking out for the feed industry with elected officials on Capitol Hill and working with the AFIA staff. Gunderson is an employee owner and vice president of VP Holdings, the parent company of Vita Plus Corporation.

Lisa Behnke, BS '85, is now working at AgSource as its marketing and communications manager. Previously she was the marketing manager for World Dairy Expo.

Kevin Jorgensen, BS '91, has been promoted to director of dairy programs at East Central/Select Sires Inc.

Finalists named for CALS dean

UW-Madison announced three Agriculture and Life Sciences at finalists for the position of dean of North Carolina State University in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

• Kathryn VandenBosch, professor and head of the Department of Plant Biology at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul.

Following an extensive search, a 16-member committee has recommended the following candidates:

• Peter Hanson, global head of project and portfolio management at Georgia-based Merial, a leading animal health company.

• James Moyer, professor and head of the Department of Plant Pathology in the College of

The finalists will visit campus early this fall to meet with campus faculty, staff, students, administrators, governance and other groups.

Their visits will include presentations open to the entire campus community.

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I really enjoyed its location and size. It seemed like a perfect fit for me.

Q: What is the greatest learning experience you have had at UW-Madison?

YESKA: I feel as though the greatest learning experience has been transforming from a very small city to a larger one in such a quick amount of time. I come from a town of only 800 people, so moving to Madison was a huge change for me but I adapted easily and found it to be my second home soon after I arrived.

Q: Who or what is your inspiration?

YESKA: My father, who is a self-employed farmer, as well as my current boss, who operates his own construction business are two people that have inspired me. They've both taught me the importance of working hard, as well as having patience and persistence in your work.

Q: What are your career plans?

YESKA: I hope to graduate with a degree in landscape architecture and work for a design firm in the midwest region specializing in the designs of small urban parks and plazas.

Q: What has this scholarship meant to you?

YESKA: Not only has this scholarship relieved some of the financial pressures college presents me, it has also helped me to realize that all the hard work and effort I've put into achieving good grades and being a good student has really paid off. I can't thank WALSAA enough for their help. It means so much to me to be presented with this award.

Remember to watch your December issue to learn about Mara Budde, Ronald Crandall, Sylvia Janicki, Amanda Miller and Jared Wendt.

NAADA iCenter connects employers with job seekers

WALSAA Director Valerie Breunig attended the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association (NAADA) annual conference in Lubbock, Texas this June. In addition to outstanding educational sessions, Breunig learned about the following NAADA membership features from which WALSAA and its supporters benefit.

iCenter. NAADA's new, online job center is a great resource for both employers and job seekers, listing jobs in agricultural and life sciences from across the nation. Internships are also listed on the site. WALSAA supporters should click www.naada.org/icenter to sign up for free job alerts or post an available position.

Networking. In addition to the educational networking with other land grant colleges at the conference, NAADA continues the opportunities for WALSAA directors with activities such as seven virtual coffee breaks – one per track – held annually. Tracks include student affairs, alumni relations, development, communications and volunteers.

Idea Sharing. Trading ideas and sharing business models with other universities at the conference can help WALSAA better serve alumni, students and the college. One specific idea borrowed from another university attending the conference already in motion is for WALSAA to work with the ag ambassadors group to train students to interact more effectively with alumni at WALSAA events.

The 2012 NAADA conference is set for July 17-20 at the University of Kentucky.

www.walsaa.org



iCenter, an online job center created by NAADA.

New WALSAA Supporters

Patrick Crave
Thomas Franz
Katherine Ruffing
Amy Ryan
Rahul Sethi

Get to know your WALSAA board members

See the interesting facts some of the WALSAA board members shared about themselves.

Tom Albrecht: While fishing on the Amazon River in Brazil, I caught some piranha. Although more boney, they taste like bluegills.

Valerie Breunig: My first job was a salad girl/motel maid. I'm sure the boredom encouraged me to try fundraising, my current profession.

Jenny Dierickx: My birthday is on Halloween.

David Fahey: My wife and I both graduated from the UW, and our three sons have now graduated from three great universities: UW-Madison, Michigan State University and Harvard University.

Brian Fluno: I have climbed to the

top of the harbor bridge in Sydney, Australia.

Liz Henry: I teach people about risk management and I am certified in scuba diving, sky diving and ski instructing.

Karen Lee: I am a two-time champion pie baker.

Jill Makovec: I am deathly afraid of bridges, and if they are too long or high, I have to have someone else drive across them!

Maria McGinnis: I am a nationally decorated equestrian.

Sam Miller: I was one of the first Americans to sleep in a Vietnamese village since the end of the Vietnam War. As a part of the Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program (now known as: Leadership Wisconsin),

we visited an artist's village, which is about 40 miles outside of Hanoi.

Shruthi Murali: I've been learning how to sing Indian Classical music for the last six years.

Bryan Renk: Made the semi-finals of the 1984 Olympic trials in Sabre Fencing.

Marjorie Stieve: Youngest of eight kids who grew up without a TV. I am sixth in my immediate family to attend the UW-Madison.

Dave Welsh: I was one of 11 recipients of the AGORA award in Budapest, Hungary for AgriGold. The objective of AGORA is to recognize the best sales members (top 5 percent) and their outstanding sales accomplishments from all subsidiaries of Group Limagrain, a parent company of AgriGold.

WALSAA Board 2010-2011

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Visit www.walsaa.org to view biographies and contact information for each of the Board members.

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Upcoming Events

- Sept. 9** **WALSAA Golf Outing**
- Sept. 10** **WALSAA 36th Football Fire-Up & Annual Meeting**
- Sept. 15** **UW Fall Career Fair**
- Oct. 21-23** **Michigan State Football Trip**