

# WALSAA EXPRESS

➔ YOUR CALS CONNECTION FOR LIFE

Volume 50 | Issue 3 | August 2022

## Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Fire-Up Sept. 10

You're invited to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wisconsin Agricultural Alumni Association (WALSAA)! With the college football season getting ready to start, the WALSAA Football Fire-Up Tailgate Party and Silent Auction plans are coming together for the annual event. All money raised supports scholarships for deserving students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS).

The 2022 Fire-Up will be held from **10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, prior to the Wisconsin vs. Washington State game on Saturday, September 10. It will take place in the University of Wisconsin Foundation parking lot, located at 1848 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.

*Continued on page 5*

**walsaa** 50  
Creating Connections for 50 Years



### Varsity Sponsors



### Badger Sponsor



### New Lifetime Members

Nicole Broege '24  
Gabrielle Conidi '24  
Kirsten Gahan '24  
Halei Heinzl '22  
Eryne Jenkins '22  
Heidi Juedes '22  
Jordan Main '22  
Madalyn Miller-Nielsen '22  
Megan Moede '24  
Molly Olstad '24  
Rosalie Powell '24  
Jacob Roden '22  
Aryan Saini '24  
Kelsey Schneider '24  
Lauren Sroda '24  
Sydney Taylor '24

### In Memoriam

Philip Craker, B.S. '52  
Bruce Odeen, B.S. '58  
James Crowley, Jr., PhD '78

### In This Issue

Daluge Red Jacket Award..5  
FISC Reunion & Picnic.....6  
Senior Impact Awards.....8  
Fire-Up Silent Auction.....10  
Football Fire-Up.....11

### Contact Us

Wisconsin Agricultural and  
Life Sciences Alumni Assoc.  
P.O. Box 5177  
Madison, WI 53705-5177  
Phone: 608.438.1994  
Email: [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org)

[www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Celebrate 50 with WALSAA on September 10!



Taylor Fritsch, WALSAA President

Time flies when you're having fun! This year, WALSAA is celebrating a big birthday: 2022 marks 50 years since WALSAA's formation in 1972. Your WALSAA Board of Directors and Events Committee is planning a great celebration for **Saturday, September 10** at the UW Foundation Parking Lot, 1848 University Avenue!

After a year off due to the pandemic (2020) and a "transition year" (2021), we look forward to welcoming all of WALSAA's members and friends to Madison for what is sure to be a fun event. Leave the work to us—let us be your tailgate of choice!

**Traditional Fire-Up Fare is Back!** Our traditional Football Fire-Up meal of freshly grilled steak sandwiches, brats and sides returns in 2022. In recognition of continuing COVID-19 restrictions in Dane County and uncertainty surrounding athletic events last summer, we opted for a boxed meal last year. We know many of you have come to expect a traditional tailgate grill-out, and we are excited to offer that again in 2022.

**Extended Event and 50th Anniversary T-Shirts.** In recognition of WALSAA's 50th Anniversary, this year's Fire-Up will run for 3 ½ hours. The event will run from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the UW Foundation Parking Lot. WALSAA's Annual Meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m. As an added bonus, the first 300 registrants to Fire-Up will receive a free "CALs Alum" t-shirt (sizes subject to availability).

**New Entertainment.** Fire-Up welcomes Madison country, americana and bluegrass band WheelHouse to Fire-Up this year. WheelHouse (formerly known as Mighty Short Bus) and its members are well known throughout southwest Wisconsin

and will bring unique energy to this year's event—you will not want to miss them! Bucky Badger will also make an appearance.

**Support Student Scholarships at the Silent Auction.** The Fire-Up Silent Auction will again take place at Fire-Up with many great items to bid on. If you can't make it to Fire-Up this year, we again plan to offer select items through an online auction that will close on Sunday, September 11! Check out [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org) and our Facebook page for more information. Recognize "WALSAA Standouts." In celebration of 50 years, we will recognize 10 individuals or couples (2 from each decade of WALSAA's history) who have made exceptional contributions to the organization's success in the past 50 years.

**Meet the Incoming Dean.** Dr. Glenda Gillaspay, a plant scientist and professor of biochemistry at Virginia Tech, has been named the next CALS Dean. Dr. Gillaspay joins CALS later this summer and plans to attend Fire-Up—we are hopeful that many of WALSAA's members and friends will be able to meet Dr. Gillaspay at this year's event.

**Great Game Opponent.** After Fire-Up concludes, the Badgers kick-off one of the premier games on this fall's home schedule at 2:30 p.m. at Camp Randall Stadium. The Football Fire-Up Gameday Package includes game tickets. Gameday Packages are limited; order early to ensure availability. We think you'll agree that this year's Football Fire-Up event is one you will not want to miss. I hope to see you this fall!

Taylor Fritsch (B.S. 2014)

## WALSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022

Taylor Fritsch '14 - 2024  
President  
Sun Prairie, WI

Michael Murphy '87 - 2023  
Vice President  
DeWitt, IA

June Roush '87 - 2023  
Treasurer  
Middleton, WI

Pierce Dopp '81 - 2024  
Past President  
Wausau, WI

Kara Luedtke  
CALs Rep/Ex-Officio  
Madison, WI

Brandi Funk  
UW Foundation/Ex-Officio  
Madison, WI

Karen Martin  
CALs Rep/Ex-Officio  
Madison, WI

CALs Ambassadors Student Rep  
Siwei Qian

FISC Student Rep  
Leo Ehlen

David Cooper '89 - 2024  
Sun Prairie, WI

Alison Demmer '18 - 2024  
Peosta, IA

Mike Kawleski '84 - 2024  
Sobieski, WI

Julie Larson '86 - 2023  
Viroqua, WI

Kay Maas '79, '82 - 2022  
Pewaukee, WI

Jill Makovec '00, '02 - 2023  
Madison, WI

Brittney Muenster FISC '11 - 2024  
Seymour, WI

Paul Patterson '86 - 2022  
Green Bay, WI

Scott Rasch '93, '97 - 2023  
Racine, WI

Brooke Trustem '20 - 2023  
Evansville, WI

# CALS MESSAGE

## Stepping Down, Staying On



*Kate VandenBosch, CALS Dean and Director*

As I mentioned in my message in January, I am stepping down as dean of CALS this summer. This will be my last column for *WALSAA Express*. It's bittersweet to write those words, but I am happy to report that I leave the deanship in highly capable hands.

Our new dean, Glenda Gillaspy, begins her tenure in August. Glenda comes to us from Virginia Tech, where she has been a professor of biochemistry since 1998 and head of the department since 2015. She brings a track record of success in enhancing graduate education, attracting and retaining new faculty, and securing resources for teaching and research. I have been enjoying getting to know Glenda while I have been sharing information about CALS. You'll hear more from her in our fall issue.

This leadership transition comes at a time when CALS is well-positioned for success. As I highlighted in my column in the March issue, we just completed a fruitful comprehensive fundraising campaign. We are making great progress in developing new academic programs, and the early indications are that the surge in first-year enrollment at UW–Madison is translating into growth for CALS. Our research and outreach programs are strong and have been recently bolstered by new federal funding for initiatives that are tied to our strengths and priorities. Here are three examples:

First, the latest federal spending package includes \$39.7 million for the USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA ARS) to build a new plant germplasm facility at our West Madison Agricultural Research Station. The facility will be used by plant scientists from UW and the USDA ARS Vegetable Crop Research Unit. It will bolster our Plant Breeding and Plant Genetics Program, which has been going strong for nearly 55 years.

Another example: CALS received \$10 million from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the Midwest Center

of Excellence for Vector-Borne Disease. This center is already making terrific progress on research into illnesses transmitted by ticks and mosquitoes. The influx of new funds will help CALS integrate vector-borne disease into instruction and training associated with the college's new global health major.

Yet another major project receiving a significant federal investment is the Dairy Business Innovation Alliance, a partnership between the Center for Dairy Research and the Wisconsin Cheesemakers Association that supports research and technical assistance for the dairy industry. The additional \$20 million will expand the program's reach from five midwestern states to 10.

I could go on with many more stories about the terrific momentum in CALS. It's clear that our new dean will have exciting projects to champion, changes to guide, and newly recruited faculty, staff, and students to welcome.

With the stage set for a prosperous future for CALS, I am pleased to say I will be remaining with the college to pursue some special projects before retirement. For example, I'll be contributing to curriculum planning in the departments of agronomy and horticulture and also scoping out possibilities for the college's non-credit instruction portfolio. I also hope to learn more about how to communicate effectively with the public about the plant sciences. I expect there will be more, but not enough to impinge on volunteering in Allen Centennial Gardens and time with friends and family.

I am extraordinarily grateful for the experiences of the past decade. I am proud of all that CALS and its community have accomplished. And I am most appreciative of the many relationships formed with colleagues, alumni, and friends over the years. I am looking forward to even more opportunities to cross paths.

## WALSAA SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR 50 YEARS OF "STANDOUTS"

WALSAA seeks nominations for recognition of "WALSAA Standouts," ten individuals or couples who have made exceptional contributions to WALSAA over its first five decades. Two WALSAA Standouts will be selected to represent each decade—1972-81, 1982-91, 1992-01, 2002-11 and 2012-Present.

Nominations may be submitted by emailing [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org). Nominations should include the name of the individual or couple nominated, the decade(s) for which they are nominated, and a brief summary of their contributions to WALSAA. Posthumous nominations will be accepted. Selections will be made by a subcommittee of the WALSAA Board of Directors.

Selected "WALSAA Standouts" will be recognized at this year's WALSAA Football Fire-Up on September 10 at UW-Foundation, in the WALSAA Express and on WALSAA's Facebook and Instagram pages.



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## Meet Dr. Michelle Brenner



**Dr. Michelle Brenner - Biochemistry and Spanish, 2010 Starting July 2022, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellow at the Medical College of Wisconsin/Children's Hospital of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, WI**

### **What brought you to your current career?**

My path to medicine was not a straight-forward one. I majored in Biochemistry and Spanish knowing that I wanted to go to medical school. I did try right out of undergraduate and did not get any interviews. During my time at UW-Madison, I was in the Biochemistry lab of Dr. Elizabeth Craig and loved doing research. So, when plan A did not work, I went to plan B and got a job as research technologist at the Blood Center of Wisconsin's Blood Research Institute. In my role, I did basic science and clinical science work in platelet signaling and activation with Dr. Debra Newman. While working, I also received a Master's Degree in Clinical and Translational Science from the Medical College of Wisconsin. I had the opportunity to go on several medical mission trips to Sumpango, Guatemala utilizing my Spanish-speaking skills and exploring my love of medicine. After working for five years, I still had the desire to go to medical school and was accepted to Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. While there, I discovered my love of pediatrics and returned to the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Pediatric Residency program. Throughout my training, I continued to love taking care of pediatric hematology/oncology patients and decided that I wanted to specialize in the care of these amazing patients.

### **It's rewarding to see CALS grads being sought after and utilizing their degree and skills outside of their major. How have you adapted to your career area and how did your CALS degree support you or help you navigate the change?**

What I really loved about my degree through CALS was that I was able to focus on the science of Biochemistry and get all the prerequisites I needed for medical school, but also learn valuable skills outside of those core classes through my second major in Spanish and other requirements. As such, these additional classes helped me when I had to seek other opportunities and in medical training as well. For example, I was able to find a really great research technologist position because I had completed the honors degree distinction through my research work. When I started working, I already had some great skills in research and research communication.

### **How did you come to be involved with WALSAA?**

I first became aware of WALSAA as an at-large representative for the CALS student council. The CALS student council was a great way to meet a lot of different people, but also make a large University feel like a smaller community. WALSAA helped to sponsor student council activities and provide much needed and appreciated scholarships to students (of which I was a recipient of) In my sophomore year, I then became a CALS Ambassador and the WALSAA student representative. As the WALSAA student representative I helped get volunteers for the football fire-up, wrote a column about student activities and achievements, hosted the first ever alumni-student dinner networking opportunity, and continued to be the connection between WALSAA and the CALS student council.

### **What was the biggest influence UW-Madison and/or WALSAA had on you?**

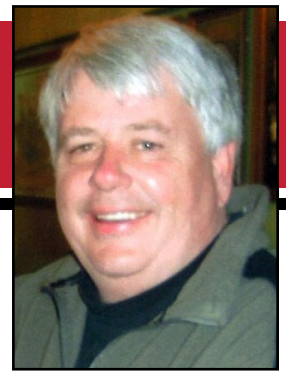
UW-Madison and WALSAA gave me the opportunities to practice and develop my leadership skills, which have been vital in my career development. I am more confident speaking in front of groups or at team meetings, because I got to practice as the WALSAA student representative. I know how to work well in group situations, because I had the opportunity to work with student and alumni from various backgrounds and with various experiences and still achieve a common goal.

### **What message would you give to current and potential members?**

Thank you for your support through time and/or money of CALS students! As a student at a huge University, CALS and WALSAA were a home to me and definitely played a role in the success I have found (no matter how circuitous the road was). In addition, the scholarships that WALSAA provides are appreciated and valued by each student. I am so happy to give back to future CALS students by being a lifetime WALSAA member and participating in fundraisers when able. Thank you! You all really do make a difference to the future leaders of Wisconsin.

# WALSAA AWARDS

## Crowley to Receive WALSAA Daluge Red Jacket Award at Fire-Up



### *Jim Crowley, Jr., 2022 WALSAA Daluge Red Jacket Award Recipient*

Continuing with its newest tradition, the Wisconsin Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Association (WALSAA) will present the sixth WALSAA Daluge Red Jacket Award at the WALSAA Football Fire-Up event on September 10. This year's recipient is the late Jim Crowley, Jr.

Crowley was named this year's recipient because of his dedication and service to WALSAA for many years. He served on the WALSAA Board for six years and was president of the organization from 2002-03. Crowley was an active member of WALSAA and served the organization as a key planner of the WALSAA Football Fire-Up tailgate event for 25 years. The Fire-Up events were a great success due to his involvement.

Crowley graduated from UW-Madison with a PhD in veterinary science in 1978 and was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. He not only volunteered with WALSAA, but he served as World Dairy Expo Dairy Superintendent and Brown Swiss Superintendent for many years.

The WALSAA Daluge Red Jacket Award honors Rick and Peggy Daluge. Rick was WALSAA's Executive Director for many years and a founding member of the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association (NAADA). Rick served as CALS Placement Director and CALS Assistant Dean before retiring as FISC Director in 2008. A red jacket is presented in honor of someone who has made a significant contribution to WALSAA and the future of the organization.

To be a part of Crowley's recognition, go online at [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org) to purchase tickets for this year's WALSAA Fire-Up event. The WALSAA Daluge Red Jacket Award will be presented on Saturday, September 10 at 10:30 a.m.

## WALSAA Football Fire-Up

*Continued from page 1*

Join WALSAA as it continues a 50-year mission to connect the University of Wisconsin-Madison, CALS and CALS alumni. Guests will enjoy special appearances from Bucky Badger, live music by WheelHouse, a tailgate meal including steak sandwiches, brats, The Williams Family's famous potatoes olé, drinks and a variety of beers from Working Draft Beer Company. WALSAA would like to give special thanks to the generous people, companies and organizations that donate to Fire-Up. These cash and in-kind donations help reduce the overall cost of the event, benefiting both WALSAA members and future scholarship recipients. Varsity Sponsors: American Foods Group, Compeer Financial, J. Henry & Sons; Badger Sponsor: UW Foundation; White Sponsors: The Conleys, Dane County Dairy Promotion Committee, Al & Lynn Herrman, WheelHouse Whiskey, The Williams Family, Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association, and Working Draft Beer Company.

The 2022 Fire-Up will feature the WALSAA Silent Auction to raise money to support scholarships, awards and student activities. Last year, more than \$25,000 was raised. This year's auction will feature a variety of items, such as lodging in Hawaii, Door County, and Hurley, Packers tickets, UW Badger men's season basketball tickets and much more! Visit WALSAA's Facebook page for an updated auction list as the event nears.

Luncheon tickets are free for those 5 years old and younger; \$10 for children 6 to 18; and \$30 for adults. \$15 of the adult ticket price is a fully tax-deductible donation to WALSAA. The member cost for a combined package ticket to both the Fire-Up luncheon and game is free for kids under 2 (if sitting on a lap at the game); \$60 for children 3 to 5; \$70 for children 6 to 18; and \$100 for adults (while tickets last).

Tickets can be ordered at [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org). Registrations in advance of the event are appreciated, however walk-ins are also welcome. All tickets are held at the event registration desk and picked up upon arrival at Fire-Up.



**Red Jacket Award Recipients at 2021 Fire-Up**



# WALSAA SUMMER PICNIC & FISC REUNION

Connecting CALS and FISC Alumni



On July 12, alumni and friends of CALS and FISC gathered for the annual WALSAA picnic. This year's event was held in conjunction with the FISC Reunion. The picnic, which traditionally corresponds with Wisconsin Farm Technology Days, was held at the UW Marshfield Ag Research Station. A backyard grill-out was served with burgers, brats and grilled chicken. Attendees enjoyed a tour of the research station while catching up with fellow Badgers.

WALSAA presented the Friend of Short Course award to Pam Jahnke for her dedication to the program. The Service to Agriculture award was presented to Amy Loudenberg for her service with the FISC Tuition Promise.

Without the generous support of our sponsors, WALSAA and FISC would be unable to recognize those who make agriculture and FISC better for our community, our alumni, and the students. Our lead sponsors at the Varsity Level were American Foods Group and Compeer Financial. Crave Brothers Farm, LLC as a Badger Level sponsor and Red Level sponsors included Daluge Travel and Wisconsin Corn Growers Association. Also, a special thank you to the UW Marshfield Ag Research Station staff for helping to coordinate the event.

It is always exciting to see old friends and meet new faces. We hope you are able to attend next year's gathering!

## THANK YOU SPONSORS



### VARSITY



### BADGER



### RED



# FISC REUNION AWARDS

## Jahnke, Loudenbeck, Blazek and Ronk Recognized for FISC Contributions



### **2022 Farm and Industry Short Course Award Recipients**

*Pictured left to right: WALSAA FISC Committee Chair Brittney Muenster, WALSAA President Taylor Fritsch, Service to Agriculture Award recipient Amy Loudenbeck, Friend of Short Course Award recipient Pam Jahnke, and UW CALS Associate Dean of Extension and Outreach Doug Reinemann*

The 2022 Friend of Short Course Award goes to a great promoter of agriculture and the Farm & Industry Short Course program. She is no stranger to farmers as we hear her voice on the radio and she was also a speaker at a past FISC Reunion and continues to share updates on the program. Getting up at two in the morning might shock some of her listeners, but for Pam Jahnke, it's part of the business. Born in Northeastern Wisconsin, Pam Jahnke grew up in agriculture. Raised on her family's 200-acre dairy farm, she learned the "farm work ethic" firsthand. Pam has been dedicated to agriculture throughout her life and we appreciate her support and promotion of the FISC program. Congratulations!

We would like to recognize Representative Amy Loudenbeck with the 2022 FISC Service to Agriculture Award for all that she has done for agriculture and the Farm & Industry Short Course program. She was instrumental in the FISC Tuition Promise scholarship program. She is a graduate of UW-Madison and was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 2010. Congratulations, Representative Amy Loudenbeck!



*CALS Dean Kate Vandebosch with J.S. Donald Excellence in Teaching Award recipients Jennifer Blazek (above) and Eric Ronk (right)*



The J.S. Donald Short Course Teaching Award was established in 1976 by Delma Woodburn in honor of her father, John Donald, a FISC instructor, political figure and farmer. This year, the Short Course Teaching Awards go to Jennifer Blazek and Eric Ronk.

As the director of the Farm and Industry Short Course, Jennifer is a committed and enthusiastic teacher, working to bring creativity and excellence into her classroom. Jennifer's patience and continued understanding of her students contributes to her high success.

Jennifer has done an exemplary job of ensuring that each student's unique background is considered. From those who grow crops to those from dairy operations, every student is able to take something from the classes back to their home operation. As a passionate educator and mentor to many, she exemplifies excellence in teaching.

Eric has had a tremendous impact on both the Farm and Industry Short Course and the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences.

From 2016 to 2020, Eric taught four classes each year for the FISC program. In Fall 2020, Eric became the primary instructor of the Animal and Dairy Sciences introductory course. Because of the pandemic, he was tasked with making a full transition to online teaching, which he did remarkably.

Although Eric's loyalty and service to the FISC program has been central to his career, Eric contributes to leadership across CALS. He serves as the advisor for the Badger Dairy Club and oversees its fundraising and professional development activities such as the World Dairy Expo, Badger Invitational Sale, and senior trip. Eric is also heavily involved in designing the curriculum for Animal and Dairy Sciences majors as a contributor to the Curriculum Committee.

During his 5-year tenure as an instructor, Eric has gone above and beyond to support his colleagues, undergraduate and graduate mentees, and students in their professional pursuits.





### Eryne Jenkins • Biology and Environmental Studies

Eryne Jenkins of Magnolia, Delaware, is graduating from the UW with degrees in biology and environmental studies. The experience of growing up in a rural community, with limited health care, is leading her to pursue a career in medicine as a community health physician and educator with emphasis on improving women's health and well-being.

Jenkins has been an exceptional campus and community leader. She has continually sought to understand how communities play a role in health. As a Fellow in the Clinton Foundation's Clinton Global Initiative University, she founded "P+: Safely Making the Grade for Period Positivity", allowing her to educate young girls on the negative effects of synthetic menstrual products and the positive advantages of reusable products or organic disposal options. She has received funding to implement this program in the Madison Metropolitan School District. Jenkins was an intern with the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness and an Interfaith Fellow at the UW Center for Religion and Global Citizenry where she studied how religious adversity affects health. She participated in a UW study abroad program in Denmark. Jenkins is the chapter president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and an undergraduate teaching Fellow in CALS's QuickStart Connect2Campus program. She has volunteered at the American Red Cross and UW Center for Patient Partnerships, been a tutor for local at-risk youth, and an undergraduate researcher at a perinatal research lab. Jenkins was appointed a student representative on the UW's Ethnic Studies Academic Committee and the Committee on Undergraduate Recruitment, Admissions and Financial Aid where she strove to ensure diversity, inclusion and accessibility for all. In 2020, she was nominated by CALS as a panelist on the Campus Diversity Forum. Jenkins is a member of the Wisconsin International Scholars Program and has received the On Wisconsin Society Award for Leadership and Academic Excellence and the Arthur B. Sacks Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Environmental Studies.

Jenkins is appreciative of the opportunities and experiences she has had as a "Badger". She remains motivated and dedicated to "give back" to others in the future. As she thoughtfully states, "The knowledge I have gained through my education is only worth the impact I can create on the world with that knowledge."



### Jordan Main • Biological Systems Engineering

Jordan Main is from New Berlin, Wisconsin, and graduating with a degree in biological systems engineering, along with certificates in environmental studies and religious studies. "At the core of what motivates me is an affinity for 'patterns,'" states Main, who says she was drawn to her field of study because of the "patterns that exist at the intersections of society and the environment". Main plans to attend graduate school and eventually take the knowledge she has gained to challenge these "patterns" by developing tools and solutions that can help solve the world's environmental problems due to our changing climate and the growing global population. "Specifically," she says, "my hope is to work on the issues of resource scarcity that are inevitable in the next century."

Main was part of CALS's inaugural QuickStart program cohort in 2018 and has remained vitally involved in this program ever since. She has been a peer mentor, an Ambassador and integral part of CALS's teaching team for both QuickStart and Inter-Ag 155 as a lead teaching assistant, impacting over 400 first-year students, as well as many undergraduate fellows and professional staff in this role. She has played a direct part in researching and developing curriculum for QuickStart and analyzing feedback over multiple years.

*Continued on next page*



Main has valued CALS's interdisciplinary approach that brings different fields of study together. She was the team leader of a senior engineering design project that designed and constructed a small scale hydroponic system for vegetable production at the Leopold Greenhouse. Throughout college, she has been involved in undergraduate research labs that have bridged engineering, agriculture and environmental sciences. In one lab, she took on a weather station implementation project of her own to develop an accessible, low-cost system for farmers that can sense temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, and rain depth. Main has been president and secretary of the UW's American Society of Agricultural & Biological Engineers student chapter and an event coordinator for the Sigma Alpha Sorority. She was previously a member of the Association of Women in Agriculture (AWA). Main has additionally been co-director of The Artisan Collective, a student organization dedicated to selling fair-trade jewelry made by global women artisans to increase their economic security.



**Tanner Oyen • Agronomy**

Tanner Oyen is from Lancaster, Wisconsin. A first generation college student from a farm family, he has used his drive and enthusiasm for learning to graduate with a degree in agronomy and a certificate in business management in only three years at the UW, all while maintaining a 3.9 GPA and being on the Dean's List every semester.

On campus, Oyen joined as many clubs and organizations as possible and said "yes" to every opportunity. "It was one of the best decisions I ever made," he says. Oyen has been president of the Badger Crops Club, co-founder and

vice-president of the Forex Investment Club, captain of the UW Quarter-Scale Tractor Pulling Team, captain of the Crop Judging Team, and an active member of Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR). He has also been a CALS Ambassador. Throughout his course work, he has continually stepped up without prompting to volunteer and be a mentor and tutor to fellow students in need of help. During his time at the UW, Oyen has been selected a Renk Agribusiness Scholar, National Association of Plant Breeding – Borlaug Scholar, and a Mid America CropLife Association Young Leader Scholar, the latter leading to involvement in CropLife's Ambassador Network program. Oyen spent more than two years as a lab research assistant at the UW's Cereals Breeding & Quantitative Genetics Lab and after the first year was able to lead his own funded research project on oat panicle architecture and its relationship to seed production. This dedication led him to be selected a Hillsdale Sophomore Research Fellow. Oyen has additionally completed three internships in the crop protection and production industry, two of these with Helena Agri-Enterprises in Illinois where he was named their Midwest Division Intern of the Year twice and upon graduation will be joining their team as a sales agronomist.

Oyen's educational journey is not over. He says, "I look forward to using the knowledge, soft skills and experiences I've collect to one day pursue a Master's degree in agronomy. I do not know exactly how I will be using that advanced degree, but I do know that if I want to be the best at what I do, further education will never hinder that."

**2022 Senior Impact Award Recipients**



# SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

## 2022 WALSAA FOOTBALL FIRE-UP

*Here is a partial listing of items that will be up for auction at Fire-Up. To see all the auction items, attend the event on September 11. Select items will be available for online bidding beginning on September 3 at [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org). More photos will be added to the WALSAA Facebook page!*



**ITEM: One-week stay at Manney Place in vibrant Door County, Wisconsin June 9-16, 2023**  
**VALUE:** \$2,000  
**DONOR:** The Wilson Family/The Manney Place

**ITEM: UW Badger Traeger Tailgater 20 Wood Pellet Grill Black**  
**VALUE:** \$529  
**DONOR:** Taylor Fritsch & Emily Selner

**ITEM: Four night stay at Daluge's Hurley area lodge for up to 12 people**  
**VALUE:** \$500  
**DONOR:** Rick & Peggy Daluge

**ITEM: Quarter Angus, grain-finished beef. Processed and cut at Weber's in Cuba City. Processing is included.**  
**VALUE:** \$800  
**DONOR:** Valley View Farms



**ITEM: UW Men's basketball season tickets**  
**VALUE:** \$1,564  
**DONORS:** Coloma Farms, Al & Lynn Herrman, Paul & Sarah Patterson, and WALSAA



**ITEM: Four Green Bay Packers tickets to Oct. 2 game vs. New England Patriots**  
**VALUE:** : \$560  
**DONOR:** Al & Lynn Herrman



**ITEM: One-week stay at Club Wyndham Plus Resort at Ka 'Eo Kai at Princeville on the garden isle of Kauai, Hawaii**  
**VALUE:** \$1,500  
**DONOR:** Duane & Kay Maas

**ITEM: Michael Best Suite (14 tickets) at the Kohl Center for a Wisconsin Badgers Women's Basketball Game during the 2022-2023 Season**  
**VALUE:** \$750  
**DONOR:** Michael Best & Friedrich LLP

**ITEM: PiP Seeds Winter Wheat**  
**VALUE:** \$600  
**DONOR:** Partners in Production, LLC/ Jack Kaltenberg

**ITEM: Four registrations to the WI FFA Foundation Golf Outing of buyer's choice.**  
**VALUE:** \$360  
**DONOR:** Wisconsin FFA Foundation

### FIRE-UP SILENT AUCTION

Looking for a great way to support current Badgers? Consider a donation to our WALSAA Football Fire-Up Silent Auction! Proceeds benefit UW CALS students through the Outstanding Sophomore Award scholarships, student organization Impact grants and FISC awards. Contact Stephanie Hammerly, [admin@walsaa.org](mailto:admin@walsaa.org) or 608.438.1994, for more information or to confirm your donation!

# WALSAA FOOTBALL FIRE-UP

## 2022 TICKET ORDER FORM

**10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 10 ♦ UW Foundation Parking Lot ♦ 1848 University Ave.**

**Online registration available at: [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org)**

Join your classmates, professors, and friends to network and have fun at this fall's WALSAA Football Fire-Up & 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 10. The big event will be held prior to the 2:30 p.m. kickoff between the Badgers and the Washington State Cougars. Fire-Up will again be held in the parking lot of the UW Foundation, 1848 University Avenue. Plans include a visit from Bucky Badger, live music from WheelHouse, a silent auction with proceeds to CALS scholarships, famous steak sandwiches, brats, potatoes olé, drinks, and various beer selections from Working Draft Beer Company. **\*\* BE SURE TO CHECK OUT FAMILY PRICING -- see below\*\***

*\*Time subject to change by UW Athletics*

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

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Names for name tags: \_\_\_\_\_

Event	Cost	# of Tickets	Total
<b>Game Day Package*</b> Luncheon** & Wisconsin vs. Washington State tickets Kick-off 2:30 p.m. (max. 6 tickets per request)	WALSAA Member: \$100	WALSAA Member: _____	\$ _____
	Children 6-18: \$80	Children 6-18: _____	\$ _____
	Children 3-5: \$70	Children 3-5: _____	\$ _____
	Children under 2***: Free	Children under 2: _____	Free
<b>Fire-Up Luncheon</b> Luncheon** Tickets Only	WALSAA Member: \$30	WALSAA Member: _____	\$ _____
	Children 6-18: \$10	Children 6-18: _____	\$ _____
	Children under 5: Free	Children under 5: _____	Free
*Badger football tickets are available only to WALSAA members as a Game Day Package deal with Fire-Up luncheon tickets. **\$15 of each adult luncheon ticket is a gift of support to WALSAA and is 100% tax deductible. ***Children under 2 must sit on the lap of an adult football ticket holder during the Badger game.	Additional 100% tax deductible donation to WALSAA		\$ _____
	Total Cost		\$ _____

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

**Make checks payable to: WALSAA**

**Mail registration and payment to: WALSAA, PO Box 5177, Madison, WI 53705**

**Register online at: [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org)**





Your CALS Connection For Life

P.O. Box 5177, Madison, WI 53705-5177



Follow WALSAA on social media at:



[www.facebook.com/WALSAAUW](http://www.facebook.com/WALSAAUW)



[www.twitter.com/WALSAA](http://www.twitter.com/WALSAA)



[www.linkedin.com/groups/4695448/profile](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/4695448/profile)



[www.instagram.com/WALSAAUW](http://www.instagram.com/WALSAAUW)

[www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org)

## NEW DIGITAL EXPRESS!

Would you like to receive a print AND digital version of the WALSAA Express newsletter?

Scan the QR code and share your email with us to opt-in to the newsletter or sign-up at [www.WALSAA.org](http://www.WALSAA.org).



Share Your Email With WALSAA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 10 ♦ WALSAA Annual Meeting 10:00 a.m.  
*UW Foundation Parking Lot*
- Sept. 10 ♦ WALSAA Football Fire-Up 10:30 a.m.  
*Celebrating 50 Years of WALSAA!*

## CALLING UW BAND ALUMNI!

Bring your instruments and join fellow WALSAA members on Saturday, September 10 for a special UW Band alumni performance at Fire-Up