

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI HONORED

UW-Parkside conferred Distinguished Alumni awards to Dr. Richard Wagner ('78, life science) and Dr. James Caya ('74, life science and history). Their careers and accomplishments were celebrated during the university's spring 2007 commencement.



Dr. Wagner is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon at Wagner Oral Surgery & Dental Implant Specialists of Racine. He received the Distinguished Alumni Service

Award for outstanding contributions to the community and the university.

Along with appointments in Racine, Dr. Wagner has held office hours in Papua, New Guinea and Guatemala. He treated 250 patients in five days at Papua in September 2006, and staged similar marathon hours on his first Guatemala trip in 2005.

"Dr. Wagner was the only oral surgeon [in a group of 30 physicians], and he had to perform tooth extractions, sinus and jaw operations, and tumor removals under less than ideal conditions," nominator Anna Maria Williams said. "He operated on about 200 patients, many of whom walked miles to reach the clinic."

A graduate of Marquette University's School of Dentistry, Dr. Wagner's local office also is a classroom. Here, students from UW-Parkside and other schools have gained insights into dental and medical careers. He also has conducted workshops on medical careers, volunteering, and community service for students in UW-Parkside's Doctors of Our Community (DOC) pre-college program which seeks to increase the number of minority students pursuing medical careers.

Dr. Wagner lives in Racine with his wife, Sue, daughter, Kim, and sons Mike, John, and Tommy.

Dr. Caya is an award-winning faculty member at the University of Wisconsin Medical School in Madison. He received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, given to graduates who excel in their professions.



After graduating from UW-Parkside and the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) in Milwaukee, Dr. Caya specialized in pathology, first at MCW and later at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C. After serving in a variety of teaching capacities at MCW as well as at Marquette University and UW-

Milwaukee, Dr. Caya accepted an appointment at Temple University's School of Medicine in Philadelphia where, as he did at MCW, he earned a teaching excellence award.

He returned to Wisconsin in 2000 to serve as a pathology professor and the head of Anatomical Pathology at the University of Wisconsin Medical School. He continues there as a visiting professor after opening his own consultation practice, Medical Assessment and Consultation, explaining pathology and laboratory results and providing second opinions on medical issues.

Dr. Caya has shared his knowledge with students in UW-Parkside's Doctors of Our Community program. Starting with the class "So You're Interested in a Career in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine," Dr. Caya has related his experiences to DOC students.

He lives in Madison with his wife, Apolonia, and daughter, Teresa Ann.

ALUMNI CARRY RANGERS TO VICTORY

The UW-Parkside Alumni Board hosted its first "Alumni Day at the Basketball Game" Saturday, Jan. 27, as the Rangers battled Southern Indiana.

The day was a huge success and the event could not have been better scripted. Alumni caught up with old friends and classmates,

Fall Fest
3 Family Weekend
October 8th-14th
10,000 Minutes of Fun
For More Information go to www.UWP.edu Keyword: Fall Fest

and the basketball games were nail-biters until the final buzzer. The Ranger women stayed right with the Screaming Eagles, trailing by only four points with 11 minutes to play. Southern Indiana, however, outscored UW-Parkside 28-15 over the last 10 minutes for a 75-58 victory. In the men's game, the near capacity crowd went wild when LaVontay Fenderson made a 3-point basket at the buzzer, sending the game into overtime. In the end, the Rangers defeated Southern Indiana 80-75.

A special thanks to all alumni and guests who came out to support the Rangers. Congratulations to the drawing winners: Randy Schlecht, Gary Dreyer, Richard Miller, Kathy Rubach, Sandy Puzerewski, John Becker, and David Schmiere. Schmiere won the grand prize of tickets to a Milwaukee Bucks game in a luxury suite. At that game, Geoff Jenkins and Bill Hall of the Milwaukee Brewers ended up in the same suite along with another celebrity – Bango, the Milwaukee Bucks mascot. Watch for information in the next PERSPECTIVE and on the Alumni website about “Alumni Day at the Basketball Game” Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008!

CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

The UW-Parkside Alumni and Advancement offices are planning an Alumni Garden Tour for summer 2008 to raise money for UW-Parkside scholarships. If you are a UW-Parkside alum, live in the Racine-Kenosha area, and are interested in having your garden featured on the tour contact Amber Engel, 262-595-2233, or Cynthia Jensen, 262-595-3245. Volunteers for the event are also needed.

ALUMNI RETURN TO SHARE EXPERTISE

In April, Alumni Relations, the Career Center, and the Advising Center combined to host the UW-Parkside Alumni Career Day. The event brought back graduating alumni (1971-2005) to share their experiences and expertise with students. Depending on their particular discipline, former students spoke to two classes, English 204: Writing for Business and Industry, or Sociology 495: Senior Seminar. Alumni talked about past and present employment and how their educational experience affected their career success. They also discussed the impor-

tance of being involved within the university community.

Thanks to all the alumni that participated: Cheryl Buckley ('84), Alisa Chojnacki ('00), Dana Grueter ('05), Steve Kratochvil ('82), Gary Nephew ('92), John Merrill ('71), Michelle Nevarez-Larkin ('98), Martha Nicks ('01), Alfredo Sandoval ('03), Gary Smith ('94), and Kim Weber ('99). Also, a very special thank you to the professors who hosted a panel of alumni in their classes, Christine Tutlewski and Helen Rosenberg.

UW-PARKSIDE TO PUBLISH 2008 ALUMNI DIRECTORY

The updated UW-Parkside Alumni Directory will be published late next year. Last offered in 1999, this institution-wide directory will be the most complete and up-to-date reference of more than 17,000 alumni. Harris Connect, Inc., the leading alumni directory publisher, will send questionnaires by e-mail and mail in the next few months to all alumni to update and verify directory information. To make networking easy, e-mail addresses, residence and business information will be included. When contacted, please take a few moments to update your information.

GET A GREAT LOOKING LICENSE PLATE AND SUPPORT UW-PARKSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

Personalize your license plates, show your UW-Parkside pride, and support UW-Parkside's Freshman Leadership Scholarship all at the same time.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation allows alumni to personalize motor vehicle license plates featuring the UW-Parkside logo. This is a great way to show your Parkside pride and support UW-Parkside scholarships.

When you purchase a logo plate, an annual \$20 tax-deductible donation goes directly into an account that supports the UW-Parkside Freshman Leadership Scholarship. During the fall semester of each academic school year, two new freshmen receive \$500 toward their tuition (\$250 each semester). Nikki Kulas, New Berlin, Wis., and Le'erin Voss, Nashotah, Wis., were the recipients last year.

Besides receiving the Freshman Leadership Scholarship, Kulas also received the Chancellor's Scholarship. She is a theatre arts major earning a certificate in design and acting. She chose UW-Parkside because of the theatre program and the variety of productions.

Voss is a double major in molecular biology and biology informatics and is earning a minor in chemistry. She is vice president of the UW-Parkside Molecular Biology Club, involved in the Pre-Health Club and Biology Club, and is a member of the UW-Parkside track and cross country teams. She chose UW-Parkside because of the small class sizes and availability of the professors. After graduation, they both agree that they'll apply for the UW-Parkside license plates.



Thanks to all alumni who donate each year to this great cause, and congratulations to the recipients!

If you're interested in getting UW-Parkside license plates, go to the Department of Transportation website at <http://www.dot.state.wi.us/drivers/vehicles/personal/special/universi.htm>.

If you already have personalized UW-Parkside plates, please e-mail us a photo at university.advancement@uwp.edu we might include the photo in a future issue of PERSPECTIVE.

How much are these plates?

Initial cost:

- \$20 tax deductible donation
- \$15 annual fee for personalized plates OR a \$15 original issuance fee
- The regular vehicle registration fee

After that:

- \$15 personalized plate fee every year (if personalized plates are requested)
- \$20 tax deductible donation each year
- The regular vehicle registration fee

SAVE THE DATE FOR A UW-P ALUMNI CASINO NIGHT

Bring your luck with you on Friday, Oct. 5, 2007. More information will be available soon!

– 1970s –

Anthony J. (Tony) Kombol ('73) is a lecturer at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in the College of Computing and Informatics. Kombol retired from IBM after 25 years in April 2006. He teaches undergraduate courses in web technology, software testing and software architecture in the Department of Software and Information Systems.

Jeffrey Warner, M.D. ('78) of New Berlin, Wis., has been appointed assistant clinical professor of internal medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin and staff physician in the primary care initiative at Froedtert Hospital's North Mayfair Walk-in Clinic. Prior to his appointment, Warner served as a physician and director of urgent care for the Covenant Medical Group in Wauwatosa. Warner is a member of the Wisconsin Medical Society and the American Association of Internal Medicine.

– 1980s –

Richard Oberbruner ('83) is a motivational trainer utilizing improvisational acting skills learned at two Chicago training sites: The Player's Workshop and the Second City Theater Training Center. Participants in his workshops take part in improv theater games (a la "Whose Line Is It, Anyway?"). He works with a variety of audiences including corporate office staff, teen prevention programs, and half-way houses. His efforts with the local county jail were highlighted in a Chicago Tribune article. He is the son of Ken "Red" Oberbruner, whose name graces the Ranger's baseball field.

– 1990s –

Elizabeth A. Andersen ('85, '91) was promoted to senior vice president of Charleston|Orwig, a national communications agency in Hartland, Wis. Andersen joined Charleston|Orwig in 1997 and previously served as vice president of issues management. The firm's clients include Smithfield Foods, Miller Brewing Company, Applebee's International and PPL Corporation. Before joining Charleston|Orwig, Andersen worked in communications positions at J.I. Case (now CNH Global) and International Jensen, a leading consumer electronics company. Andersen is a

member of the Public Affairs Council and Business for Social Responsibility.

Rebecca Matoska-Mentink ('91) was elected Kenosha County Clerk of Circuit Court in the November 2006 general election and officially took office on January 2.

Cheryl D. Montgomery ('95) was hired as planning director for Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency, Inc. Montgomery holds a bachelor of arts in sociology, and she was the first student to graduate with a minor in ethnic studies.

Sheila Egerson ('98) is a mortgage loan officer for Johnson Bank in Racine. Egerson is responsible for developing new mortgage business in Racine. Egerson was an assistant in Alumni Relations at UW-

Parkside before joining the Admissions Office as an admissions counselor.

– 2000s –

Dennis Irwin ('01) has joined the staff of Wipfli LLP, a CPA and consulting firm with offices in Wisconsin and Minnesota. As internal audit manager with the firm's health care practice, Irwin helps organizations identify enterprise-wide risk and control issues. He also assists clients in the development and implementation of plans that mitigate risks and enhance controls. Irwin is an active member of the United States Army Reserve and adjutant of the South Milwaukee American Legion Post.



Mission Statement

To encourage and coordinate the connection of University of Wisconsin-Parkside Communication alumni with each other, with faculty, and with students.

The Communication Department is committed to creating a learning community, within which students, faculty, and staff jointly investigate the theoretical content of Communication as a discipline, while learning and using a shared set of communication skills. PCAA supports that mission.

Why Join?

- Mentoring
- Internship and Job Shadowing
- Volunteering Opportunities
- Fundraising for Events
- Networking



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