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ONLINE: CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

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Focal Point 2011 WIST Unveils Annual Report

BRIAN LUEDTKE
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The one-year-old Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology held its first annual report event in the Dreyfus University Center on Tuesday, October 4. The event, known as Focal Point 2011, was a free, half-day symposium showcasing WIST's potential.

Paul Fowler, executive director of WIST, addressed the assembly, discussing several market opportunities and potential challenges for Wisconsin, and described WIST's potential.

"WIST is a multi-disciplinary collaboration. Collaboration being the key," Fowler said.

Keynote Speaker

Fowler introduced Ben Brancel, Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and keynote speaker. Brancel described roadblocks in adopting sustainable practices in Wisconsin. One point was that some technologies are not available at reasonable scales for practical use. Brancel described how another challenge is "making the connections take place and collaborations happen."

There are many groups working towards common goals, although they may not be aware of each other. A major challenge described was educating the public with fresh information. Think of this as analogous to the switch from using an abacus to being upgraded to a TI-83.

Another roadblock involved is the search for an economically viable biofuel technology. Before focusing on clean air and water, this technology must be developed, tried and proven to work.

Symposium

A symposium by UWSP faculty followed the keynote address by Brancel. Eight sessions were held simultaneously in both the Alumni and Laidt rooms.

Paul Doruska, Associate Professor of the UWSP College of Natural Resources, presented research on residual biomass equations, which showed how current equations over-estimate residual biomass from Red Pine (Pinus resinosa) by 15 percent. Of the seven undergraduate students involved with the research, two have begun graduate school and the third is currently applying.

Bob Wolensky, Professor Emeritus of the UWSP College of Letters and Sciences, described a four-leg table of sustainable development. The legs were made of economic, social, environmental and civic factors. If one leg was too big or too small the table and dinner would fall off.

Gene Martin, visiting professor of the UWSP CLS, presented the UWSP Sustainable Commute Project, which asks the question, "How do you get to campus and why does it matter?" This question will help maximize transportation efficiency while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. Interestingly, 70 percent of students traveled within five miles of campus. Of those, 80 percent live within two miles. To learn more, or to contribute to the study, visit www.uwscommute.com.

Lunch

The event concluded with lunch and a presentation by Les Werner, Associate Professor of the CNR, on the formation of the Environmental Microbial Analysis and Research Laboratory (EMARL). The laboratory is an "interdisciplinary, collaborative consortium of faculty, researchers, four graduate students and an expanding 11 undergraduate students," whose "environmental microbial research will increase a seminal, baseline knowledge base and increase capacity to effectively manage resources," Werner said.

Focal Point 2011 successfully demonstrated that WIST is following its belief that "innovation fueled by collaborative research will help unlock opportunities in value-added processing and move Wisconsin for...

Letter to the Editor

"The Pro-Death Party," what does that mean? In the September 15th edition of The Pointer Logan Carlson claimed that the "Pro-Death Party" was the Republican Party because of the death penalty. The question we need to ask ourselves is, is anyone perfect? If the answer is no then we are led to ask, can any party be perfect? I would love for the answer to be yes, but reality is that it is not. The death penalty has a time and a place when it can and should be used justly.

If a criminal is putting the safety of the community at risk and cannot be stopped any other way, then for the safety of the community they should be executed. Is this always the context in which the death penalty is used? No.

So, if according to Carlson's statistic that the Republican Party is responsible for more executions then the Democratic Party it means that the Democratic Party is more pro-life, right? What about the 1.3 million Americans the Democratic party allows to be unjustly executed each year? These are not criminals, not even people who have had the opportunity to do anything wrong. The Democratic Party supports 1.3 million abortions each year, and there were 46 executions in 2010 (not all under Republican Governors.) Who is the Pro-Death Party?

CHELSEA RUDGER
President of Pointers for Life
Stop the Ecocide at its Source
How one signature can change the course of history

COMMENTARY
BRIAN LUETKKE
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Along the lines of genocide and crimes against humanity, ecocide - the destruction of ecosystems - has been proposed as an international crime against the peace. The law would be enforced by the United Nations and would result in national laws which would strongly discourage damaging and destructive activities while creating specific, legally binding duties and responsibilities.

Heavy extraction, toxic dumping, mining and deforestation are the specific types of activities that would be prohibited by the proposed law. Perpetrators found guilty would not be fined, but forced to clean up their mess and, in some instances, even improve the ecosystem they degraded.

In fairly recent history we have witnessed many cases of ecocide.

Case Study I
The March 11, 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami, which lead to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, resulted in thousands dead and the release of radioactive materials. Some materials were deliberately vented and discharged in an attempt to cool the damaged reactors. Other materials were released by uncontrolled events.

Radioactive materials have been found in food and other products in places up to 200 miles from the power plant. At present, the plant is still releasing radioactive materials, though at a much lower level than the weeks after the earthquake.

Japan had a chance to exploit their 324 GW (gigawatts) of achievable renewable energy. Now, after the nuclear meltdown, the Japanese government is subsidizing renewable energy sources. The negligence that led to low upkeep of the plant would be considered ecocide.

In the next five years, 10-20 billion yen ($13,042,900 - $26,085,800 USD) will be spent on six floating wind turbines in the sea near Fukushima.

Germany, Europe's economic superpower, has begun phasing out nuclear energy, favoring renewable energy.

Case Study II
Perhaps you may remember the April 20, 2010 explosion on the British Petroleum drilling rig, Deepwater Horizon, in the Gulf of Mexico. The event is considered the second largest environmental disaster in United States history, next to the dust bowl of the 1930's. In the blast, 11 workers were killed and more than two-dozen others were injured. Oil spewed into the ocean for months after the incident, accumulating to some 4.9 million barrels (likely an underestimate).

Both of these ecocides could have been avoided with more stringent safety precautions and appropriate preventative measures.

North American

Keystone Pipelines
TransCanada Corporation, based out of Calgary, Alberta is a North American energy infrastructure developer and operator that owns 36,661 miles of pipeline and 10,500 MW (megawatts) of energy production. The corporation wishes to install two pipelines through the United States. The first, Keystone I, is already under construction. But it is the second, Keystone XL that is really causing controversy.

The 2,147-mile, 36-inch diameter pipeline would transport bitumen from the Alberta tar sands to refineries in Texas. Bitumen is a dirty, sludgy, tar-like material often intermixed with sand and clay. Extraction of the bitumen is very resource-intensive, as the bitumen must be heated so that it can be pumped and processed into a form that can be transported to refineries.

Initially the Keystone I pipeline will have a capacity of 435,000 barrels per day, increasing to 590,000 barrels per day. The Keystone XL pipeline will further increase this to 1.1 million barrels per day.

Because of the way the pipelines are organized, Midwesterners are expected to see a 20-cent per gallon hike in gas prices by 2013. This will result in an additional $2-3.9 billion in annual revenue for Canadian producers.

The majority of the bitumen piped to the Gulf Coast will not go to the US. Instead, the bitumen will be refined into diesel fuel and other products that will be exported to Europe and Latin America.

The pipeline would cross several sensitive regions such as the Sandhills in Nebraska, the Ogallala Aquifer and an active seismic zone. Spills in any of these zones would be catastrophic, crippling the Midwestern economy, poisoning drinking water for two million Americans and potentially impairing $20 billion of U.S. agricultural production.

The Big Picture
If there’s one thing we’ve learned from the recent nuclear disaster and the Deepwater Horizon well explosion, it is that we can’t cut any corners. Yet, TransCanada has been accused of using thinner steel and pumping at higher pressures than normal, creating a recipe for disaster.

This is a really interesting situation as there are so many parties involved, each skewing the facts to suit their agenda. From oil companies competing in Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Venezuela to environmentalist groups, investors and local governments, everyone has propaganda blood on their hands.

The technologies involved with harvesting and processing bitumen are portrayed as state of the art and fairly efficient, compared to older methods of extraction. However, efficient is a relative term.
HEC Solar Panels Remain Idle

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is known for being an environmentally friendly campus, committed to its sustainability through recycling, energy conservation and continually exploring new ideas. However, low budgets render many innovative projects, such as dealing with the inactive solar panels on the Health Enhancement Center, impossible for our university.

UWSP has made many energy savings changes throughout the past few years, one of which has been the installation of solar panels. Walking around campus, many students may have noticed the solar panels on some of the residence halls such as Knutzen, Pray-Sims and the recently renovated Neale and Suites @ 201 halls.

These solar panels produce heat for all of the water in each building, thus saving a large amount of energy. Water-heating solar panels are also installed on buildings such as the HEC and the Noel Fine Arts Center.

Rumor has been that the solar panels installed on the HEC have been turned off, when in fact they were never turned on. According to Shelly Janowsky, the sustainability coordinator at UWSP, the campus received some extra thermal collectors when the solar panels were serviced on Knutzen Hall in 2006, all of which were built by the same company; Solar Mining.

Solar Mining went out of business shortly after the university received the extra panels, so as a result the panels were never made functional. They were left idle at that time because there was no solar contractor with the state, and there was no available funding. With nowhere else to go with the panels, they were installed on the HEC to protect them from damage.

Since then, the state has contracted a new vendor for the solar thermal energy services, H&H - Regenisis Power, LLC.

"This past spring, the Division of State Facilities had Regenisis do a site survey on campus to determine if there was potential to use the panels to heat the pool. Regenisis found that the panels were low-producing; they did not produce enough energy to sell back," Janowsky said.

After several attempts to evaluate the solar panels located on the HEC, these are still not functioning, particularly due to the small amount of energy they produce.

"The panels that are on the HEC are just collectors and have never been in service or even connected to a solar thermal system. They haven't been removed because of the cost associated with removal and disposal," Janowsky said.

The university hopes to eventually put the panels to use, but is unsure whether or not that will be possible due to the low availability of funding for this sort of project.

"We have been looking into tate funded options with no clear path in sight. Unfortunately, we have been told that renewables are not likely to be approved with conservation funds under this administration. We hope that will change," said Robert Oehler, director of facility services.

Even though the solar panels on the HEC are currently not being used, UWSP continues to look into energy conservation measures around campus to keep UWSP green.

Lecture Series Promotes Disability Awareness on Campus

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College students are often their own harshest critics. They feel inadequate socially, overweight, out of touch, or maybe they think they're annoying. There are plenty of ways for them to pick themselves apart, but how often do they realize how fortunate and able they actually are.

If you know someone who has a disability, or you are disabled, you may have considered this before. What one person may take for granted can be the biggest hurdle in another person's life.

To commemorate Disability Awareness Month, the Disability Advisory Council is hosting a lecture series called "Govern All Abilities" next week on campus. The DAC is an on-campus group that aims to increase awareness about disabilities, advocate related issues, and report that information to the university.

On Tuesday, October 11th, nationally known speaker and author Bill MacPhee will host a lecture in the Laird Room of the Dreyfus University Center titled "Living with Schizophrenia." MacPhee was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1987, and with the aid of medication and therapy, has regained control of his life.

The series continues on the 12th and 13th with presentations from Gary Cumley, Pam Terrell, and Kelsey McCoy. Their presentations are titled "Asperger's Syndrome: A Different Perspective," and "Understanding & Supporting Students in Distress." Terrell and Cumley's lecture will talk about the characteristics of Asperger's, and the relation to social skills and the perspectives of other people.

Terrell said that these lectures will provide a valuable experience to those looking to learn more about the condition.

"I hope that people can appreciate the strengths of Asperger's as well. It is classified as a disability, but there are a lot of wonderful things about Asperger's. Most people with Asperger's tend to be very bright. They tend to be very creative thinkers and often very visual, excelling in art, engineering, and visual-spatial skills," said Terrell.

Scott Allen is a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student with Asperger's Syndrome that is involved with a student group that meets to share ideas and discuss their experiences. Allen is currently working on a book about what it is like to have the condition.

"You can see if someone has difficulty walking or is missing a hand or an arm, you can immediately relate to the difficulty that person would have. It's easy for people to understand because it's more obvious," said Allen.

Another UWSP student with Asperger's, Tony Marquez- Barrientos said that he had difficulties growing up with the condition, but he was lucky to have a few relatives and close friends who provided him with relief.

"Even if you don't have many friends, but you have one or two close friends, it's still a refuge and a person you can talk to," said Marquez- Barrientos. He also said that these lectures are important for people to attend, whether they have a disability, know someone with one, or just want to learn more.

The DAC has more information on the lecture series on their website at http://www.uwsp.edu/equity/Pages/disabilityCouncil.aspx.
Bucky Shucks Nebraska

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Commentary

Saturday's matchup between Wisconsin and Nebraska marked the first time two top 10 teams have met in Camp Randall since 1962. The game was supposed to be Wisconsin's first real test of the season. It was also supposed to be Nebraska's grand entrance than the Badgers.

The game was supposed to be Wisconsin's welcoming into the Big Ten, and who better to welcome them into the conference than the Badgers? Not once did I hear the word "blowout" until after the game was over and the scoreboard read 48-17.

"Is this a Nebraska technical college?"
No Brian. No it isn't.

I'm the kind of guy that gets a little touchy when there is negative talk floating around about my team, and that night I was in the perfect state of mind to say something about it. After a few quick insults about the Cornhuskers and a reaffirmation that Russell Wilson is quite superior I had more than a few Badger fans on my side.

As the night went on there was more of the same. These Husker fans were like Pauly D and Vinny in Italy, they just walked around the streets liked the owned the place. I could not go five steps without hearing a Nebraska fan slurring insults at me. Therefore I took it upon myself to remind every one of them that they weren't in the cornfields anymore.

The following afternoon was even worse. ESPN College GameDay analyst Lee Corso had picked Nebraska to win. Many of the fans I saw the previous night were nervous hangovers.

Top of that it was Hemmepfest all weekend. These people were so far out on the edge they began talking trash in the middle of Chipotle. They became even more unruly after the game started. When Wisconsin failed to get off to a fast start and seemed unable to stop Nebraska's option, the Husker fans became more unbearable. They had to be stopped, but I was just one little boy. How could I stand up to an army of corn eating monsters? Turns out I didn't have to do anything but watch.

Wilson completed 14-of-20 passes for 255 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for another. Junior running back Montee Ball rushed for a season high 151 yards and tied his career high with four touchdowns.

Sophomore receiver Jared Abbrederis led the team with five catches for 95 yards and a touchdown. Senior receiver Nick Toon wasn't far behind with four receptions for 94 yards and a touchdown.

Martinez showed early signs of his ability. The Husker's offensive line was able to open up big holes, allowing Martinez and junior running back Rex Burkhead to gouge the Wisconsin defense for big gains. But Martinez's awkward throwing mechanics proved ineffective when trying to rally his team. He completed just 27.2 percent of passes of 15 yards or more.

As the defeated Cornhusker faithful slowly emptied Camp Randall, they avoided making eye contact with any Badger fan. Good choice.

The ones unfortunate enough to meet the stare of someone wearing a "Shuck Em Bucky" t-shirt got a razzing that is only comparable to the one reserved for the kid that grew armpit hair first in elementary school.

Nebraska's football team can be easily equated with a Nebraska cornfield. One day you look it at and in the potential wealth it represents. The next day it's being mowed down to the ground.

I think Brian, the drunken Badger season ticket holder next to me said it best. "Is this a Nebraska technical college?" No Brian. No it isn't.

NCAA WEEKEND MATCHUPS

9 Oregon vs. Cal Thu. 8pm
1 LSU vs. 17 Florida Sat. 2:30pm
3 Oklahoma vs. 11 Texas Sat. 11am
7 Stanford vs. Colorado Sat. 6:30pm
14 Nebraska vs. Ohio St. Sat. 7pm
2 Alabama vs. Vandy Sat. 6pm

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point cross country team headed south this weekend. Indiana for the Notre Dame Invitational on Friday.

Men's Head Coach Rick Witt and women's Head Coach Megan Craig both led their respective teams to a 14 of 20 finish.

The Pointers were one of only three selected Division III schools to compete.

The women were able to finish ahead of the other Wisconsin schools, while the men beat Milwaukee and Green Bay but could not catch up to Oshkosh, which finished sixth.

Grand Valley State University finished ahead of everyone in both the men and women's race. Senior Kelly Haen finished 34th in a time of 18:37 for the Pointer women. Following her was a 69th place finish in 19:21 by freshman Julia Colling, 11st place in 19:31 for sophomore Annie Olson and 93rd place in 19:48 by sophomore Kelsey Laska.

Junior Abby Reynolds rounded off the Pointer women, finishing in 108th place with a time of 20:14.

Haen has personal best times of 5:18.80 in the mile, and 17:25.00 in the 10,000 meter. She is proving herself as a leader in her final season in hopes of getting the team ready for the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Conference Championships at the end of the month.

Senior Terry Witkowski led the men's team with a time 26:14 for 56th place. Close behind him was junior Evan Cooper who ran the course in 26:22, placing 60th.

Sophomores Michael Moore and Dan Sullivan ran times of 26:31 and 26:33 and placed 65th and 67th respectively. Junior Logan Seipel finished 80th with a time of 26:46.

The men and women's teams' highest finish of the season came at Concordia where they both finished second.

Coach Witt is coming off of a 2010 season where he was crowned the WIAC Coach of the Year award. He is no rookie to this award, taking it 14 times throughout his illustrious career.

The Pointers will hit the trails this weekend at the Lawrence Invitational in Appleton on Saturday. Both the men and women runners will be in competing.
sports

Late Eagle Rally Gives Pointers First Conference Loss

ANDY HESSE
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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team traveled to La Crosse to take on the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Eagles on Saturday. The opening game in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference began the same way it ended: with an Eagles score.

La Crosse got the ball rolling with a 20-yard pass from sophomore quarterback Mike Butterfield to sophomore running back Ben Hertrampf. Point answered with a nine-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Casey Barnes to senior wide receiver Mike Mullins, making it a 7-7 ball game.

The second quarter began with Point taking advantage of a La Crosse punt. Senior kicker Jered Fohrman connected on a 37-yard field goal to break the tie.

With the pointer lead at 10-7, the Eagles were again stopped without points and forced to give UWSP the ball back with enough time to score before halftime.

Senior running back Cory Flisakowski punched in an eight-yard touchdown after seven plays, taking the lead to 17-7.

Point got the ball back to begin the second half and picked up where they left off. Barnes passed to junior receiver Keith Ingram for a five-yard pass with a little over one minute remaining. Point was again unable to move the ball and had to punt to a new confident Eagles offense. Six plays, 71 yards later, the Eagles tied the game at 28-28. Butterfield completed a five-yard pass with a little over four and a half minutes remaining to Eagles sophomore wide receiver Tony Bilderek.

With one minute remaining, Bilderek lined up for a 49-yard attempt on fourth down that could decide the game, but his attempt sailed wide right, leaving the score knotted at 28-28.

The Eagles took over with 68 yards separating them from the end zone. They wouldn't need that much real estate. La Crosse drove 67 yards and scored a two point conversion thanks to a Barnes rush, making the score 28-14.

Point was again unable to move the ball back to the offense. The Pointers drove to within field goal range and Fohrman connected on a 35-yard field goal, bringing the lead to 20-14.

DOOLITTLE DRIVE

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MASON MEULEMANS
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Commentary

The Brewers celebrate their first National League Central Division championship in their history.

Brewers Brass Deserves Thanks

MASON MEULEMANS
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Not enough credit can be given to the front office of the Milwaukee Brewers this year. It’s been the efforts of General Manager Doug Melvin and the fiscal commitment of owner Mark Attanasio that have propelled this team into one of the most fascinating and fun teams to watch this year.

With roster moves that included bringing in pitchers Zack Greinke and Shaun Marcum, the Brewers were instant contenders for the NL Central Division. The man responsible for bringing it all together was new manager Ron Roenicke.

A bench coach for the Angels just a year ago, Roenicke was able to keep this team playing at a high level all season, including a second half that was one of the best in Brewer history.

Very rarely this season did Brewer fans get to question Roenicke, because he often did what a fan of the game would do. He treated this team almost as if it was a video game, keeping this young squad interested throughout the year. Being aggressive on the base paths and playing small ball was a style unfamiliar to this team, but he sold the concept and the team couldn’t have gotten a better product.

Like any good player’s manager, the trust went both ways for the team. Being one of the youngest teams in the division, the status quo would often drain this team and frustrate them in previous years.

Former managers Ken Macha and Ned Yost would often favor less antics and more professionalism in the game. This year we saw the emergence of an alter ego, people switching from “the belt” to “beast mode”, and a player’s 5 for 45 streak brought a team together.

Nyjer Morgan was the best position player addition to the squad. His post game interviews and the creation of “beast mode” ignited Brew fan passion and caused this team to laugh all year.

Tweeting as Tony Plush, Morgan asked his followers what to do on his day off in Milwaukee. An hour later he posted a picture of himself flying a kite, saying thanks for the suggestion. He’s the perfect kind of crazy for this team, almost like the youngest brother who’s the most immature at dinner.

This team was the kids’ table at Thanksgiving, loud and obnoxious with inside jokes, but could take the adults outside and crush them in sports. Roenicke was the perfect enabler to a team that needed to have fun.

It’s a great time to be a fan of Wisconsin sports, but the Brewers are making a different kind of noise. Sure the Packers won a Super Bowl, and the Badger’s Russell Wilson looks like this year’s Cam Newton, but it’s been a long time since the Brewers were serious contenders for a pennant. Milwaukee is just waiting to erupt for their team. Let’s face it; there is no greater feeling than hearing Bob Uecker plugging Usinger’s Sausage in October.

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Have an opinion? Share it with us at:
pointer@uwsp.edu
Believe it or not, camouflage is not globally known as common attire. Living here we don’t think much of our culture, but ironic enough, when coming from another country’s culture camouflage stands out like a sore thumb.

Both agreed that the culture here is extremely different from their hometown, Bogotá, Colombia, as the capital city of Colombia is an extremely populated urban area. Relative in size to New York City, it has large buildings and attractions most everywhere, making Stevens Point extremely small in comparison.

Shocked at the small amount of city life that surrounds Stevens Point, both Guevara and Garcia enjoy it here. “Here there is green everywhere! At home buildings are everywhere,” Guevara said.

Also surprised at how small Stevens Point is, Garcia enjoys being in a quieter community opposed to the busy city life back home in Columbia. Garcia was also surprised at the difference in the food here compared to the food in Columbia.

“The food is different here. People use a lot of salt, pepper and other spices,” said Garcia, referring to the excessive amount of condiments Americans use on food.

Countless universities across the country provide international studies programs, UWSP being one of them, so why did these students choose Stevens Point? Guevara chose UWSP because a family friend knew about the school, and Garcia chose UWSP because he had heard the English as a Second Language program here was phenomenal.

Although it may take a little more adjusting to get used to the culture of Stevens Point, Guevara and Garcia are both enjoying what they have experienced so far and are excited for what is to come.
Hootenany gathers in the woods for a good cause

RACHEL HANSON
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University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students recently got a glimpse at what life is like for America's poor. Community Action Program Services and the Portage County Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership co-sponsored a poverty simulation at the Dreyfus University Center Alumni Room last Friday.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 46.2 million people in our country are now living below the poverty line. With so many people struggling to make ends meet, the UWSP Student Involvement and Employment Office made plans to educate students about the realities of poverty. Shannon Williams, the Student Involvement and Employment Coordinator for SIEO, was one of the organizers of the simulation.

"This is the first time we've worked with CAP Services and the Portage County Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership to host this particular simulation at UWSP," Williams said. "Several people said it challenged their previous ideas about the circumstances surrounding poverty."

The simulation began by assigning students to "houses" that relied on each other for their everyday needs. Volunteers manned tables where they acted as community businesses or services. Each person in the house had responsibilities, including finding work and transportation, and a very limited amount of money. The parallels between the simulation and student's own lives were many.

"A lot of [college students] are living on really small incomes," said Anne Morgan, a sophomore at UWSP. "It's amazing to me how many people can live on even less than most of us do every day."

At the end of the simulation, participants and volunteers discussed their experiences. Each participant was asked to commit to one action they would take as a result of participating in the simulation.

"The main goal of the simulation was to inspire people to take action," Williams said, "whether that is through volunteering, advocating, or further educating themselves." SIEO plans to anonymously display those action statements in the DUC concourse over the next couple of weeks.

There are many other resources and opportunities to learn about poverty. You can learn more by checking out the SIEO SERVE website at www.uwsp.edu/centers/sieo for volunteer and educational opportunities on campus.
Getting out of school could be the best thing for school

SAMANTHA FELD
AMANDA HAYS

We spent 70 hours in the NFAC last week. All because we feel like good design can help save the world.

We packed our bags, made business cards, grabbed our sketchbooks and left. We drove for 6 hours starting at 3 a.m., made it to a small town in Minnesota to get lost in the design world for three days.

The UWSP student chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Artists attended the annual Minnesota Design Camp.

Approximately 300 designers from around the country, from students to professionals, attended the conference. Keynote speakers included those who have designed for Best Buy, Forever 21, Jack Daniels, and Disney.

We listened to five design professionals tell their stories, how they got to where they are, what makes their design team 'work'.

One may not normally expect to see a large group of designers at a northwoods lodge. An urban setting, maybe. ... But probably not in the woods. Turned out, that was the whole point.

All the speakers had one thing in common:

They consistently spoke of the power lying in leaving their usual spaces in order to create better work.

Design professional, Jamie Koval, spoke of his fond memories of attending overnight camp as a child and how the experience helped him realize the rejuvenating powers of the outdoors. He took what he learned as a child and brought it to his professional life by giving his design partners a day of rejuvenation, with the opportunity to have a day to do whatever they wanted. This helped his partners leave their own minds for a while, and ultimately fill their tanks with inspiration so they could produce better work.

When you are constantly working on one thing you tend to get lost in it and think about nothing else. Therefore it's beneficial for one's mental health to get out and experience the world.

Overall, a few points were made:

• leaving your "comfortable space" helps you leave your own head and be open to new experiences
• a shift of environment creates and improves character
• step back from your work or you'll crush it
• stepping out of your comfort zone and doing something you aren't used to makes you stronger
• experiencing different things gives you something to draw from when it comes to your work

With this new mindset, we left Design Camp refreshed and ready to take on the feats of our upcoming projects.

So, go out and play! Go somewhere you wouldn't normally go, even for a short period of time, an hour or two. Learn something new about yourself. Challenge yourself. Afterwards, you will have a cleaner head and be full of ideas. Get out of school so you can be better in school.

Hand-made wooden plaques designed by Target's In-House designers were displayed around the Grand Lodge at Design Camp 2011.

COMMUNICATION WEEK: ADVICE FROM ALUMNI

MONICA LENIUS
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Some students have worries about graduation, finding a job, and making it in the "real world." That's where Communication Week comes in. Stevens Point alumni are being brought in to help ease these anxieties by guest speaking in communication classes all week and being available for networking hours.

Students can come in, meet professionals, ask questions and make contacts for hopeful internships or jobs. When asking these successful graduates what they best advise students today, here's what they had to say:

1. GET INVOLVED

"Stevens Point has such a vast array of activities and an array of anything out there. A great benefit is that you can just jump right in, even as a freshman. It opens so many opportunities for meeting people and having fun," said Tim Blatz, News Anchor/Reporter for WSMSP-TV, Fox 9 in Minneapolis, MN.

2. BROADEN YOUR ACTIVITIES

"I didn't want to over stress myself but I regret not getting involved with the radio or TV. Luckily I found my direction when I worked for the Pointer, but it really broadens your perspective when you work with all facets of media," said Brett Christopherson, sports writer and digital content producer for the Post-Crescent in Appleton.

3. NETWORK!

"Know somebody... that's your in... suck it up for all it's worth... it all really snowballs after that," said Bret Lemoine, news reporter for WFRV-TV in Green Bay.

4. LOOK THE PART

"Always dress above your job, that way employers can see you in that job. By looking professional you also gain more respect," said Lindsey Meier, business banker at Investors Community Bank in Stevens Point.

To get more questions answered and helpful advice, check out the Communication Arts building (CAC) for the last day of communications week on Thursday to talk to four other graduates in the production, anchor, and director fields. They will be having networking times from 3-3:30PM and 1:15-1:45PM.

30+ FLURRIES SUNDAE SHAKES/MALTS SMOOTHIES CONES SLUSHES

BELLS Soft Serve Students Pole wi Home of the Large Cone

LAST DAY OF THE SEASON

SUNDAY, OCT. 9
The Privileged Many

MELISSA ZIPPERER
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Our attention deficit generation (yes, I’m talking to you so don’t stop reading yet) is not without an emotional memory. We can all like figures, and largely imperfect information because activism is one of the few instances where each of us can demonstrate how well versed we are with the deep intricacies of social structure. We want change, and we know how to get it.

I am sharply contrasting this against the trendy fiasco of protesting economic disparity by targeting the financial sector. With Walker we were fighting for the perceivable livelihoods of our fellow Wisconsinites with an idea of what ramifications our actions would have. The economy at large, on the other hand, is more of a philosophical puzzle beyond anyone’s control. In our economy, banks, broker/dealers, and insurance companies serve as intermediaries for our money, and are fiercely regulated by other firms and the government. The government is by and for the people. The people working in the financial sector are, surprisingly enough, people. People who also lost jobs during the market collapse. Work-a-holics who may not endure much physical anguish but are equally worn from droning hours of digesting the past, present, and future economy. Some might say they are overpaid, I say every moment of criticism we spend upon them justifies their earnings.

Regardless of your feelings, consider at least this: if you kill the middlemen, you lose your ability to extract valuable information from them. Often the key to success is foresight. Furthermore, if you choose to insist upon change, would it not make more sense to target the source of the money rather than the destination? I believe the government is responsible for listening to and providing for its citizens. So while I realize it is a lot easier for us to blame the cryptic financial world for our woes, we are taking the easy way out. These protests distract us from admitting our beloved, long-lived government needs renovation. So unless you are really ready to shed your ego, your on-demand lifestyle, your privileged habits and government-subsidized educations, stop. Get a job. And as Gandhi would suggest: “Be the change you want to see in the world.”

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To discover more about the WEA Trust PPP available to state of Wisconsin health plan members, call 800.279.4000 or visit WeaTrustStateHealthPlan.com.
The Perfect Coffeeshop for You

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COMMENTARY

I know a few things, and one is the ins and outs of local coffeehouses around Stevens Point. One is my homework location, another is the one I go to when I'm on campus and the other is the perfect place to grab a bite to eat. Stevens Point is actually pretty lucky to have quite a few good establishments to sit down in on a cold, rainy day and grab a coffee.

The Basement Brewhaus is the on-campus go-to locale for a quick cup of caffeine. The Brewhaus is located in the basement of the Dreyfus University Center. It is also known for its well-worn couches where I've might have fallen asleep on once or a hundred times.

Along with all its specialty coffee drinks, it features my favorite drink in the world, beer! It carries microbrews from the area along with better-known domestics, something no other café in the area offers.

Zest, which opened up early this year, is a bakery along with its coffee making services. Zest is sandwiched between Campus Cycle and Hardee's; a stone's throw from the dorms.

Boasting a lunch menu featuring sandwiches, soups, and flatbreads, Zest is a great place to stop for a quick bite while studying. To satiate the sweet tooth in all of us, Zest makes an arsenal of sugary treats for you to reward yourself after an aced exam, from cookies and cakes to bars and granola.

Another local, and personal favorite, is Emly J's. Emly J's is conjoined with Café Espresso and the Main Grain Bakery. All three establishments offer mostly organic and locally grown products.

Also, Emly J's is the best place to schmooze your professors. They'll probably hate me for giving it away, but if you ever want to buy your French professor a coffee and tell them about how your terrible roommate made you stay up till one in the morning watching Craig Ferguson and that you promise to do better on the exam if you could only retake it... Emly J's is the place.

A new coffee shop opened downtown recently in the old Supreme Bean location. Supreme Bean is owned by UWSP's costume shop designer Wendy Dolan. It is at a premium location downtown right across from my favorite breakfast place, The Wooden Chair. It offers a nice atmosphere after a hefty breakfast of bacon, an omelet with bacon, and a stack of pancakes.

I hope this might give you a different option than that one-coffee-chain-that-always-seems-to-pop-up. I'm not saying they're the worst thing in the world (goodness knows I love the Strawberries and Cream Frappuccino), but Stevens Point is a community! Don't you want that barista to know your name and your order? Support your local coffee houses and they'll support you throughout your many trials, tribulations, and final's week.

Photos by Samantha Feld

Erny J's is a local, organic alternative to Starbucks.

Students make the Brewhaus in the Dreyfus University Center is a popular stop for their coffee fix.