



The best start for the life you want!

Counselor E-News - Spring, 2009

This edition of "Counselor E-News" is prepared by the Office of Student Services at UW-Richland as a service to high school guidance counselors. The newsletter is sent via e-mail and is also available via the UWR High School Counselor homepage: http://richland.uwc.edu/resources/hs_counselors.asp.

The numbers game: We live in a world where we find ourselves always looking at "the numbers," don't we? Your school district looks for the bottom line *pupil count* ... and we look for the bottom line we call *FTE* (full-time equivalency). In an era where the downward trend for high school graduates has begun in southwestern Wisconsin, we're feeling fortunate this semester that our enrollment is 5% above the level posted one year ago. We continue to feel good about having exceeded our fall '08 enrollment target, but realize all eyes are now on next year.

Currently our fall applications are running 2% ahead of last year's pace. The increased spring semester enrollment, coupled with an on-pace count for fall leaves us with a sense of optimism as we anticipate our fall '09 enrollment.

BUT ... we certainly can't and won't take anything for granted, especially in these dire economic times. Families will struggle to make ends meet and for some the desire to start college will be a dream deferred. And so, we have our work cut out for us—and that "we" includes you—as we help students see how college dreams can be realized ... and not deferred.

One logical solution from our "unbiased" viewpoint: **UW-Richland ... your best start ... for college ... for career.**

Academic excellence ... affordability ... accessibility ... all hallmarks of our campus.

Tuition has increased 11% at the 4-year UW campuses the past two years, but has been frozen here at UW-Richland, all in an effort to help make the freshman/sophomore UW campuses affordable and accessible.

Given the existing economic climate, we can't expect a third year of frozen tuition, but clearly the savings of the past two years are real savings we can pass on to our students.

It's late February. Most of your students have made their selection regarding college for the fall. BUT ... there are undoubtedly some late deciders in your midst.

We appreciate your efforts in all you do—and can't thank you enough for reminding students of UW-Richland as a viable option.

UW-Richland: The best start for college ... for career.



Summer Session @ UW-Richland

Information regarding our Summer Session is available via the UWR website; printed information was sent to many area guidance offices recently.

This year's Summer Session presents some intriguing options both for UW-Richland and non-UWR students. One of those options is the availability of campus housing; in fact, this is the first time we will offer housing for summer students. As a result, we are more broadly promoting the UWR Summer Session, thinking that students bound for other campuses may find some "jump start" opportunities within our summer programming.

Two 3-week sessions are being offered, as well as one 6-week session. Included in the 6-week session are two developmental skills courses (English & Math) for those students who need a brush up prior to starting classes in the fall. Note: UW System placement testing may be necessary to determine course eligibility.

Students graduating this spring who plan 6 or more credits this summer may also want to explore the possibility of financial aid. Financial aid in the summer is generally limited to Pell Grant for those eligible and the Federal Stafford Loan program. Students would need to file a 2008-09 FAFSA in order to be considered for summer financial aid.

Detailed information regarding Summer Session is found in our printed summer bulletin and is also available via our website: www.richland.uwc.edu under "Course Schedules" in the navigation bar. Class registration begins March 2.

CRASH COURSE IN COLLEGE LIFE

Round 3: Back by popular demand

This unique, one-week, 3-credit college experience course has been so successful in each of the last two years that it will return this coming August. The goal of the class is to encourage students to move “at the speed of life” to get the most of their college education. Students will develop an understanding of a liberal arts education with a focus on study skills, time management, critical thinking, and individual learning styles.

The program is part of our Engaging Students in the First Year (ESFY) initiative and is open to students entering college this fall.

The course will meet the week of August 17-21 and will be a total immersion type of experiencing encompassing most of the daylight hours of each day; in addition, there will be 5 follow-up sessions during the first five weeks of classes. Students should come out of the class with many of the basic skills needed for college success.

If you or a student you know has questions about “CRASH,” contact Linda Gentes, ESFY Coordinator at UW-Richland by e-mailing her at: linda.gentes@uwc.edu .



Fall Class Schedule available soon online

Our 2009-10 Course Schedule is in the final stages of development and, while the printed schedule won't be available until late March or early April, the online version should be accessible via the UWR website: www.richland.uwc.edu by the first of March. Just click on “Course Schedules” and select the term of interest.

The online Course Schedule is always the most up-to-date information. Once the printed schedule is, well, printed ... it's quickly out-of-date. We always tell our students to use the online schedule for the most up-dated information; in fact, the online version includes course availability information: is a class closed? how many seats remain available? So ... it's a very good resource.



Associate Degree with emphasis option to start: Earlier this semester the UW Colleges gave official sanction to the establishment of several **emphasis** options within our Associate of Arts & Science Degree program. Students will now have the option of pursuing an Associate of Arts & Science Degree with Emphasis in areas like

- Education
- History
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Political Science

The emphases generally include a 15-20 credit requirement of specific and elective courses within those areas of study. We think this will be an attractive option for students and compliments our current Certificate programs in Business and Environmental Studies very nicely. With an AA&S with emphasis or a certificate program, students will see added value in obtaining the AA&S.



Campus View . . .

Housing Notes

The Campus View residence halls were full this past fall—and will fill again. One of the things distinguishing UW-Richland from other UW Colleges campuses is the availability of a residence life option. The housing rate for 2009-10 will remain at the same level as the current year (\$1600 per semester) and so remains a very affordable housing option.

Important Note: We want you and your students to know that housing applications are still being accepted. In past years—despite high demand—CV has been able to accommodate all who desired housing. So . . . please help us get the message out to students that housing on campus is a good possibility . . . even at this late date.

We also realize that not all students want to live on campus—and we do not require it. The Student Services Office maintains an off-campus housing list to assist students who want to live off-campus.



“Next up” for UWR-bound Students

Once we get past February, things will really start moving fast, including all of those end-of-the-year activities you and your students are involved with. It gets hectic here, too, but we’ll do our best to make sure you and your students know what’s coming up next and what needs to be done to make sure they’re ready for fall classes.

Here’s what we’ve got scheduled for our new students:

1. **Placement Testing:** Information about placement testing will be mailed to all admitted students in mid-March. While UW-Richland does not participate as a regional test site, non-UWR students can test here if they like, but will be assessed a \$25 testing fee. Students will test in English & Math—and these are the standard UW System Placement Tests. If a student lives closer to a Regional Test site and would like to test there, that’s fine. (Our placement testing dates are slated for April 18, April 25, May 2, May 16, and June 13—all Saturdays. Our May 6th test date is a Wednesday.)
2. **Financial Aid Award Information:** Students who submit the FAFSA by our priority date of April 15 will receive first consideration in the financial aid awarding and notification process. Generally, the UW Colleges begins mailing Financial Aid Award Offers in late April. This is an on-going process with notification continuing throughout the summer months.
3. **2009-10 Course Schedule & STAR Information:** In early May we’ll send information to admitted students regarding **STAR** (SummerTime Advising & Registration). They’ll receive information on how to access Course Schedule information—and will be told to sign up right away for their selected STAR date. STAR is the start of our orientation program that extends through “Welcome Week” in September. Students walk away from their STAR session with a fall class schedule in place. STAR sessions begin on June 2.



Taste of UW-Richland” preview is April 22

This year’s “Taste of UW-Richland” is planned for **Wednesday, April 22** from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Interested juniors and seniors—and their parents—are invited to participate. As with most campus preview programs, ours will provide an overview of UW-Richland, including people, places, and programs.

Your help in promoting this event will be much appreciated! We ask for reservations by April 17—and they may be made by contacting the Office of Student Services: (608) 647-8422, Ext. 264. Students may also register online via our website: www.richland.uwc.edu . The registration site will be available by mid-March.



Wisconsin Education Fair is October 6th @ UWR: UW-Richland will again be the site of a regional Wisconsin Education Fair this fall. This year's date is Tuesday, October 6, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Over 84 college representatives will be there to provide information to your students. And, there will be two financial aid presentations.



Student Information Technology worker recruitment: Each year we're fortunate to have two student workers as part of our Information Technology team on campus. Recruitment for the new freshman IT worker begins soon with application letters due by May 1. This is truly a wonderful opportunity for the student and includes some pretty nifty benefits, including:

- 4-day intensive training June 16-19 with travel, meals, and housing provided plus a stipend of \$7.50 per hour.
- 10, 30-hour weeks of employment (June 23-September 1) at \$7.50 per hour, allowing earnings for the summer to a maximum of \$2,250.
- Employment during the school year with 15 hours per week @ \$8 per hour for a maximum of \$3,600.
- Employment on campus during the summer between the freshman and sophomore years.
- Employment during the sophomore year @ \$8.50 per hours

Qualifications:

- Strong academic record
- Computer literacy (experience with e-mail, web browsing, word processing)
- Personable with a willingness to help people
- Good communication skills.

Interested students should send a letter of interest and resume to John Poole, Student Services Office ... by May 1.



Roadrunner women are Wisconsin Collegiate Conference Champs!

The Roadrunner women's basketball team won the championship of the Wisconsin Collegiate Conference the weekend of February 13th. Their 13-3 record will hopefully improve as action continues in Wisconsin Junior College Athletic Association tournament play. They play in the Wisconsin Junior College Athletic Association State Tournament the weekend of February 21-22.



Lumberjacks in Love, made popular and famous by the American Folklore Theatre group in Door County will be presented by the UWR Theatre Department this spring, with production dates slated for March 28, April 2, 3, & 4—all at 7:30 p.m.; the Sunday, March 29, performance will be at 1:30 p.m. All shows are presented in the Coppertop Theatre on campus.



Teen Mentors Needed for Japanese ESL Program: The UW-Richland Office of Continuing Education is accepting applications for U.S. Teen Mentors to our Japanese ESL Institute which will be held on campus July 27 through August 4, 2009. The institute provides intensive programming intended to improve Japanese students' oral comprehension and speaking skills and increase Japanese students' understanding of U.S. culture in preparation for one year of high school studies in the United States. The U.S. Teen Mentor Program offers high school teens the opportunity to work closely with students from another culture. Teens receive training and experience as ESL classroom facilitators and peer mentors. U.S. teens will gain a better understanding about their own culture as they interact and immerse themselves with peers from a foreign culture. Teen mentors may be eligible receive an honorarium for their participation. Meals, lodging and activity fees will be also be provided to our mentors. Additional program and application information may be found at our website: www.richland.uwc.edu/ce/summer.asp.



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Reminder: Don't forget we have a homepage just for you! The High School Counselors' page may be found at: http://richland.uwc.edu/resources/hs_counselors.asp.



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