

School of Education Year-End Report 2002-2003

They Came, They Saw, We ALL Learned: PI 34 Compliance

Leslie McClain-Ruelle, Head - School of Education

Another year closer to our compliance with the PI34 rules and requirements! This year we worked in a campus-wide effort preparing for the December DPI site visit. The visit was a learning experience for all involved. The Overall Policies and Practices and our Institutional Evaluation including Graduate Follow up were approved. We submitted plans for completion of our UWSP Professional Education Program Conceptual Framework, for compliance with Wisconsin Teacher Standards, for the Professional Education Program Assessment Plans and Clinical Program descriptions. Based upon these plans, we have received conditional approval for our program. During the summer of 2003, we will meet again with representatives from the DPI to review our completion of each of these components of the Program Approval Process. Additionally, by the fall of 2003, we will need to have each of our certification areas aligned with program approval expectations.

To further align with the PI34 rules, we have created an electronic portfolio template for use by all students graduating from Professional Education Programs after August 2004. See <http://www.uwsp.edu/Education/Reference/PDP.asp>. As a part of this work, we have provided samples of portfolio components for student consideration. Three one-credit courses will support the Professional Portfolio development. The first of these was offered in the spring of 2003, the second will be offered in the fall of 2003.

During the summer of 2003 we will revise the School of Education Handbook, to become the Professional Education Handbook. This Handbook will reflect the UWSP Professional Education Program Conceptual Framework, along with all expectations related to PI34 compliance.

The progress that we have made in this process is due to the great attitudes and constant efforts of the PI34 Compliance Steering Committee consisting of Judy Bond, Music, Patty Caro, Special Education, Fred Hebert, Health Exercise Science, and Jan Seiler, Foreign Language and the hard work of the Implementation Team representing each of the certification areas, including those named above and Paula DeHart and Neil Lewis, Social Science, Leslie Plonsker, Communicative Disorders, Marty Loy, Family and Consumer Education, Perry Cook and Don Showalter, Science, Barbara Dixon and Richard Behm, English, Yomi Ogunnaike-Lafe, Early Childhood, JoAnne Katzmarek, Elementary Education, and Henry St. Maurice, Field Experiences.

GRADUATE OFFICE NEWS

Patty Caro, Director

The Graduate School of Education has had a fulfilling and busy year. We implemented a Professional Development Series. One strand of three courses is entitled, "Renewing the Educator" and it focuses on individual projects and research in a seminar-like environment (Education 783, Education 784, and Education 785).

A second strand of courses is called, "Innovations in Education." This second strand of three seminar-like courses (Newer Views of Learning, Brain-Based Education, and New Contexts of Learning) involves discussion of the latest research on intelligence, learning, teaching, and developments in education. Both strands of courses can be incorporated into our Master's of Education in Elementary Education or Master's of Education - General Education.

Furthermore, we have established two certificate programs. The Mentor Certificate is a series of three courses in order to enable individuals to gain knowledge in mentoring beginning teachers, and supervising and assessing instruction. The courses numbers are Education 700, 761, and 771. The other certificate program, the Professional Development Certificate, is designed to address the advanced content and pedagogical skills for the Wisconsin graduated career cycle. Individuals devised their own professional development plans and professional portfolios. These courses are Education 500, 600, and 700. Again, these certificate programs can be included into a UWSP master's program.

As well, we have implemented new courses in special education to address the on-going needs of teachers. These courses will be offered over the next academic year and concentrate on behavioral strategies to use with students experiencing emotional/behavioral disabilities, alternate assessment of students with disabilities, and reading strategies to use with students experiencing disabilities.

Our Graduate School of Education website is www.uwsp.edu/education/graduate.

THIRD SITE-BASED MASTER'S PROGRAM BEING OFFERED IN MERRILL

Paula DeHart, Professor and Coordinator



Laurie Schmidt, kindergarten teacher from the Tomahawk School District, and Fred Lintereur, high school history teacher from the Rhinelander School District, share professional artifacts as a part of the School of Education Site-Based Master's Degree Program.

The current Site-Based Master's Degree Program is being hosted by the Merrill School District and includes a total of 46 teachers from the Merrill, Tomahawk, Rhinelander and Stratford School Districts. The Merrill Program participants, who met for a week in August and one full weekend per month during the past academic year, are halfway through the two-year program and will graduate with Master's Degrees in the Spring of 2004. The Site-Based Master's Degree Program is co-facilitated by Paula DeHart, School of Education, and LeAnn Chase, principal, Tomorrow River School District. Beth Titus is the program assistant.

OFFICE OF FIELD EXPERIENCES

Henry St. Maurice, Director

In 2002-2003, the Office of Field Experiences was responsible for the assignment and supervision of the following student and intern teachers:

	Semester I	Semester II	Annual
Totals			
Elementary & Early Childhood	62	68	130
SOE science	2	3	5
SOE social studies	12	11	23
Special ed. initial	16	11	27
Special ed. emergency	42	27	69
Other majors	42	64	106
	+-----	+-----	+-----
	176	184	360

Of the above, 64 were interns sponsored by the Wisconsin Improvement Program.

As in years past, UWSP continued successful collaboration with over 100 school districts, comprising nearly 1,000 qualified cooperating teachers. Liaison teachers in Stevens Point assisted with over 500 clinical field experiences.

THE NETWORK FOR GIFTED EDUCATION SUMMARY 2002

Christine Gould, Director

The Network for Gifted Education sponsors two programs for school-age children, College Days for Kids and Youth in College. The Director is Dr. Christine Gould and the Program Coordinator is Janelle Mahoney.

College Days for Kids is a program in which 6th grade students from the UWSP service area are invited to spend two Fridays on campus. While they are on campus, the 6th graders attend classes taught by professors. In spite of weather difficulties this year, approximately 600 children attended the program.

Youth in College is a summer enrichment program for gifted and high-ability children. It is a partnership between UWSP and the Stevens Point Area School District. These two-week enrichment classes allow children to study subjects in depth that they wouldn't normally study in school. For the 2003 session, classes cover subjects such as acting, science, inventing, and art. There is even a class in which kids learn to access different parts of their brains.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Barbara Grover and Laurie Kallstrom, Outreach Specialists

With the support of the Professional Development Network, the School of Education offered 39 courses, plus 8 Independent Studies throughout Summer 02, Fall 02 and Spring 03. These courses served approximately 470 K-12 teachers throughout the state.

Courses offered included seven COSTARs with the following school districts:

- Stevens Point
- Wausau
- Wisconsin Rapids
- Antigo
- Adams-Friendship
- Shawano-Gresham
- Medford/Abbottsford/Colby Consortium

Additional collaborative courses were coordinated through the McFarland, Stevens Point, Wausau, and Wisconsin Rapids school districts. Plus, several courses were offered through CESAs 5 and 9.

New graduate-level course strands were developed

- Renewing the Educator
- Innovations in Education
- Professional Development Certificate
- Mentor Certificate
- Gifted & Talented emphasis Master's degree courses

Grants:

- \$2,000 from UW-System PK-16 Initiative: Professional Development in Instructional Technology for Teachers, for the development of two of the one-credit licensure deficiency courses.
- \$8,370 from DPI Wisconsin Improvement Project to coordinate the Foundations in Mentoring Workshop in Wausau, August 2002.

TEACHERS 2010+ MINORITY MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Paokee Xiong, Coordinator

It was a banner year for Teachers 2010+! Both the fall and spring events involved record numbers of middle, school minority children from Central Wisconsin. On November 20, 2002 students from Wausau, Schofield, Stevens Point, Black River Falls, Plover and Wisconsin Rapids attended the fall session at UWSP. Students attended a Health Education class with Sheila Miech and a Music Education class with Judy Bond. There were smiles, laughs and casual conversation which showed everyone had a great time. Some of the activities they participated in were: creating a dance to a certain beat of a song, interpreting music through hand and body movements, and using music instruments to demonstrate beats of a nursery rhyme. After the classes, students headed to the University Center for lunch in the Legacy Room. The afternoon included a quick campus tour and a Chemistry Show by Gary Shulfer. Students received a mug, compliments of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and 'Graduation Certificates.'

On March 4, 2003 42 students attended the spring session of Teachers 2010+. Students attended a Science Education class with John Ihde where they made and painted a 'goopy substance.' Concepts such as matter, evaporation, and condensation were the topics for the day. Next they attended Math Education with Stan Carlson. There they participated in center activities exploring Geoboards, making snowflakes and building stars and polygons. Students had lunch in the University Center and after lunch attended Health Education with Sheila Miech. The spectacular Chemistry Show was the last thing on the agenda.

Students attending reported a high level of satisfaction with their classes, the Chemistry Show and their visit to UWSP!

WISCONSIN CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING PROGRAMS

Pat Schoonover, Director

Wisconsin Creative Problem Solving Programs had a busy year for 2002-2003. Destination ImagiNation (DI) program for students kindergarten through college is still its biggest program. However, FIRST™ LEGO® League (FLL), a robotics program for students ages 9-14, is growing fast. First we will describe our year with Destination ImagiNation and then describe our exciting year with FLL. For more information about both programs, visit www.uwsp.edu/wcsp.

Destination ImagiNation

Destination ImagiNation is a problem solving, team-based program for students kindergarten through college. Wisconsin is third largest of all affiliate organizations globally. DI encourages students to apply creative problem solving processes and tools as well as creative and critical thinking to solve their chosen challenge. Each year there are 5 new challenges for teams to choose from. Teams are formed of no more than 7 students. While our largest group of memberships comes from schools, DI memberships can be formed from any group or organization. Parents can even form neighborhood teams. There were 12 Regionals in Wisconsin this past season.

Thirty teams from Wisconsin participated in the Destination ImagiNation Global Finals, May 22-25, 2002 at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Wisconsin sent the first and second place teams. There were over 800 teams competing from all over the world at Global Finals and Wisconsin, as usual, did very, very well! Half of our teams placed in the top 10 and over half of those placed in the top 6. To see the final scores and placings, go to <http://www.idodi.org>. Wisconsin members were able to register for DI and for State membership online at www.uwsp.edu/wcsp/di.

FIRST™ LEGO® League

FIRST LEGO® League (FLL) shares many of the same goals as does DI and many teams participate in both programs. FLL teams can have no more than 10 students on a team. One of the unique qualities of FLL is that the teams are expected to help find sponsors to fund their team. During the 2002 season (September to December) there were three regionals: Appleton, Milwaukee and Stevens Point. Kimberly-Clark sponsored the State tournament. There were 82 teams in Wisconsin - a 47% growth. There was room for all teams at the regional level. This was the first year in which just a certain number of teams from each regional could advance to State. We anticipate 4-5 regional tournaments for 2003.

Students do more than build a robot out of LEGOs®. This past season students were involved in researching urban planning issues with the challenge, City Sights. However, the team of students (no more than 10) is not all programmers or builders. The team must also conduct research about the Arctic and to answer the research question of whether there is a change in the weather globally and if so, is man impacting it to speed it up or whether it is only part of a natural cycle. Students had to also talk about how their team worked, who did what, issues they dealt with and solved (hopefully) as well as present their answer to the research question. The robot performance is only a small, but very exciting part of the tournament!

Both Programs

Both programs have curriculum and federal standards connected with the annual challenges. Destination has resources showing Team Managers and parents how to apply Creative Problem Solving and its tools as the team works towards a solution. Our Wisconsin CPS Programs office has a Cyber Store which supplies resources for DI Team Managers and FLL Coaches and other adults helping the teams.

FACETS GRANT TO SUPPORT EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Leslie Wilson, Co-Coordinator - FACETS

Leslie Owen Wilson, Susan Gingrasso, and Marty Loy received a \$500,000 Congressional Award from Congressman David Obey for their FACETS (*Faculty Alliance for Creating and Expanding Teaching Strategies*) initiative. The grant program targets university teaching improvement and will help to encourage faculty toward excellence in university instruction.

Core concepts addressed in the proposal are the importance of currency of practice as related to students' perceptions of effectiveness, as well as the importance of understanding how newer and more diverse instructional delivery methods tie into student retention. Also, targeted for study are the learning styles, attitudinal, and experiential differences of newer generations. This grant initiative creates an educational partnership experience by involving and drawing on the expertise of business leaders and secondary teachers in order to help the combined faculties from both UWSP and UW- Marathon study and understand the learning differences and needs of newer generations of students.

PERSONNEL

SOE Welcomes New Faculty Member in Special Education

The School of Education welcomes Lisa Worcester as special education faculty member beginning in fall of 2003. Lisa has earned Bachelor's of Music and Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy degrees from the University of Minnesota. She earned her Master's degree in Special Education from the University of St. Thomas and is completing her PH.D in Educational Psychology and Special Education from the University of Minnesota. Lisa has worked as a music therapist and as a special education teacher at all levels for fifteen years. She has given numerous presentations and workshops on topics related to special education.

Support Staff News:

Catherine Griesmer was hired in the fall of 2002 as the student status examiner for the Office of Field Experiences.

Janelle Mahoney was hired in December of 2002 as a program assistant in the Gifted and Talented Network Office.

Maichoua Moua, who is seeking teaching certification, will be coordinating the Teachers 2010+ program for SOE this coming academic year. Maichoua is from Schofield.

Linda Rice will return after a two-year leave of absence. Linda is the program assistant in the Wisconsin Creative Problem Solving Programs office. Diane Dieterich filled the position during Linda's leave of absence.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Association for the Education of Young Children (AEYC)

Yomi Ogunnaike-Lafe and Patty Caro, Advisors

This year, AEYC started off with several goals, one of which was to foster collaboration with other early childhood professionals in the community. To do this, the organization participated in a community literacy program geared toward promoting the importance of reading aloud to children. Also, the organization invited

Tom Pease, a popular Children's Artist, to share his musical talents with students and members of the community.

The organization collaborated with other student organizations such as StWEA and KDP on campus-based projects and activities (the Groundwater Festival). AEYC continues to support projects in early childhood education courses.

At the last meeting in April 2003, new officers were elected. The new officers have met with the advisors to formulate goals and visions for the new academic year. These goals include continued collaboration with other student organizations, increased participation in professional activities at the local and state levels, provision of developmentally-appropriate resources and information to early childhood and elementary students, and continued collaboration with other early childhood professionals in the community.

Kappa Delta Pi

Pat Shaw and Dayle Upham, Advisors

Kappa Delta Pi held two fundraisers this past year. As a result, we were able to purchase books and donate \$200.00 to our "Reading is Fun" project school, Stevens Point Alternative High School. Over 30 Pacelli High School students received tutoring assistance during the 2002-03 school year, thanks to the coordination of the Pacelli High School tutoring program facilitator and the KDP co-coordinators, Matt Wood and Amanda Gray. Twenty-one new KDP members were initiated into our honor society during the April 23rd ceremony. New officers for the coming year were also elected at that time. KDP members Leah Tappa and Becca Prast, along with co-counselor Pat Shaw, will be presenting "Building Teachers - Block by Block!" at the KDP Biennial Convocation in St. Louis, MO in November, 2003.

Student Wisconsin Education Association (StWEA)

Maggie Beeber, JoAnne Katzmarek and Dayle Upham, Advisors

The year 2002-2003 was very busy for the Student WEA group. In addition to planning and leading the monthly general membership meetings, several officers and members attended the WEAC Convention in October and the executive officers attended the Nationals in Washington, DC, in November. A special thank you to our Central Wisconsin UNISERV and the School of Education for helping with the funding. They also planned a Brat Sale as a fundraiser in December and a social event in both the fall and winter. They planned and facilitated teacher appreciation activities for the SOE in both the fall and spring semesters. In February, they facilitated the UWSP portion of the Books from the Heart program in which each 1st grader in the Stevens Point School District received a free book.

In mid-year, Cara Dillman assumed the presidency (president-elect, she has since moved up to president) for the State StWEA organization and Lisa Lietz took over as our local president. The transition was smooth and comfortable. The end of the year saw much activity for the organization. First Lady Jessica Doyle visited the Latchkey program at Jefferson Elementary School and advocated for total teacher preparation programs such as we have at UWSP.

Many awards were received at the end of the year, including state StWEA awards to Dr. Dayle Upham for Teacher Educator of the Year, UWSP StWEA Website of the Year, and Grant of the Year for our Latchkey Program. This grant was also renewed for the next school year. The national StWEA awards will be announced in July. UWSP honored StWEA with the Organization of the Year Award.

The current officers and upcoming officers for 2003-2004 celebrated the end of the year with a picnic on May 4th. We are looking forward to an activity-filled year again. The highlight of the coming year will be the campus appearance of Alfie Kohn in November. The officers are already planning for this major event. Any teachers who wish to come to hear Alfie Kohn speak should contact Maggie Beeber at 346-2040

BANQUETS

Celebration of Teaching

On November 6, 2002, The UWSP School of Education hosted the fourth annual Celebration of Teaching Banquet and awards ceremonies. Over 120 persons attended, including cooperating professionals, student and intern teachers, faculty, staff, families and friends. The following awards were presented: Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society Excellence in Teaching, to Penny Knapp of Mosinee; Student Wisconsin Education Association Excellence in Teaching, to Linda van Strydonk of Tomahawk; Association for the Education of Young Children Excellence in Teaching, to Lorrie Richardson of the UW-SP Gesell Institute; Tom Hayes Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching, to Emery Babcock of Stevens Point. The evening concluded with remarks by Elizabeth Burmaster, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

2002-2003 School of Education Scholarship Banquet

The SOE Scholarship Banquet for 2002-03 was held Thursday, May 15, in the Alumni Room of the University Center. One hundred twenty-one people attended the banquet, including administrators, faculty and staff, students and their guests. We also enjoyed the company of several of our scholarship donors, who had the opportunity to have dinner with the recipient of their award and to participate in the awards process. Thirty-two excellent students seeking teaching certification received scholarships totaling \$27,950. Two new awards began this year: the Habeck Scholarship, created by Phyllis and Roy Habeck alumnae of UWSP teacher preparation programs, and the Roger Wood Scholarship, in memory of Roger Wood - professor emeritus of the School of Education.

FACULTY/STAFF ACTIVITIES 2002-2003

Penny Boileau

- Presentations
"Testing vs. Assessment" at the Wisconsin Association of School Boards Convention in Milwaukee, January 2003.
"Teaching, Learning and Assessment" at the International Alliance of Teaching Scholars in Pomona, CA, March 2003.

Patricia Caro

- Presentations
Caro, Ann Hains (UW-Milwaukee), Ellen Browning (Edgewood College), Mary Ann Marchel (UW-Oshkosh), and Linda Tuchman (UW-Madison, Waisman Center) presented "Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Approaches to Teaching and Learning Online" at the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association Conference in Green Bay, October 2002.
"Changing Times and Technology: The Ins and Outs of ECSE Online Instruction" at the Division for Early Childhood Conference in San Diego, CA, December 2002.
- Publications
Caro, P., McLean, M., Browning, E., and Hains, A. (2002). "The Use of Distance Education in a Collaborative Course in Early Childhood Special Education," *Teacher Education and Special Education* 25(4), 333-341

Perry Cook

- Presentations
Cook, Dan Sivek and Jennie Lane (CNR), presented a paper, "Establishing a Network of Teacher Educators for Energy and Environmental Education," at the North American Association for Environmental Conference in Boston, MA, August 2002.

Paula DeHart

- Presentations
DeHart and JoAnne Katzmarek presented "Oh Say Can You Hear: Teaching Speaking and listening Skills in the Social Studies Classroom" at the Wisconsin Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference in Green Bay, March 2003.

William Dietsche

- Presentations
"Effective Teaching Creates Good Scores" (keynote speaker) at the Wisconsin State Reading Association Institute on Assessment in Eau Claire, October 2002.
"Effecting Change: Some Hints on How to Act" at the UW-Oshkosh Fall Reading Conference, October 2002.
"Using Alphabet Books Across Grade Levels" and "Effecting Change: Some Hints on How to Act" at the Eau Claire Area Reading Council Fall Meeting, November 2002.
"The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: 40 Years of Observations of Assessment Practice: Good Teaching Leads to Good Test Scores" at the Central Wisconsin Reading Council Winter Meeting in Stevens Point, February 2003.
"Encouraging Creative Writing." with JoAnne Katzmarek, at the UW-Oshkosh 8th Annual Writing Conference, March 2003.

Christine Gould

- Presentations
"Science Starts Early" at the National Association for Gifted Children Annual Convention in Denver, CO, November 2002.
- Publications
Article "A Visit from a poet and Other Literary Devices" printed in the March 2003 edition of *The Journal of the Illinois Association for Gifted Children*.

Suzanne Hall

- Presentations
"Athletic Shoes: Studies in Compounding Polymers," "Industrial Processes of Polymers: How are Toys Made?" and "Food Packaging: A Learning Cycle of Activities" at the National Science Teachers Association Convention in Philadelphia, PA, March 2003.

JoAnne Katzmarek

- Presentations
"Integrating Language Arts for Authentic Learning" at the 2002 Statewide Equity and Multicultural Conference in Wisconsin Dells, November 2002.
"Sharing and Reflection of Research by Past Recipients of the Pat Bricker Memorial Award" at the Wisconsin State Reading Association Convention February 6-8 in Milwaukee.
"Using the Language Arts to Enhance Literacy Teaching" for the Marathon County Literacy Council in Wausau, February 2003.
"Encouraging Creative Writing" at the 8th Annual UW-Oshkosh Writing Conference, March 2003.
Katzmarek and Paula DeHart presented "Oh Say Can You Hear: Teaching Speaking and listening Skills in the Social Studies Classroom" at the Wisconsin Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference in Green Bay, March 2003.
- Grants
Project Director for a \$40,000 UW System Viva! Project grant. The dates for the grant, Language Arts Lineas de Viva, are 7/01/02-6/30/03.

Leslie McClain-Ruelle

- Grants
McClain-Ruelle and Kao Xiong received word that the third year of the Project Forward grant was renewed in the amount of \$184,083. The five-year program is aimed at increasing the number of Southeast Asian educators in Marathon, Portage and Wood Counties.

Oluyomi Ogunnaike-Lafe

- Presentations
"Early Literacy Skills" at St. Stanislaus School, Stevens Point, October 2002.
"Involving Immigrant Fathers in Early Childhood Classrooms" at the Annual Wisconsin Head Start Association Training Conference in Wisconsin Dells, February 2003.

Henry St. Maurice

- Presentations
"Ensuring Quality Educators in Every Wisconsin Classroom through PI-34" at the Wisconsin State Superintendent's Conference in Madison, September 2002.
"University-Based Induction & Mentoring" at the Statewide Mentoring Conference, Stevens Point Holiday, November 2002.
St. Maurice presented a paper, "Transforming Supervisory Grading" with student Amber Yudchitz at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, April 2003.
- Publications
St. Maurice co-authored a chapter with Donna Nelson of Mosinee Elementary School, Kay Strouse of SPASH & Christine Waechter of Stevens Point Madison School: "How We Have Grown: Reflections on Professional Development," in *Teacher Inquiry: Living the Research in Everyday Practice*, eds. T. Clark & G. Erickson, eds. London & New York: Routledge, 2003.

Pat Schoonover

- Presentations
"Creative Problem Solving for Your Business" at the Madison Advertising Federation Seminar in Madison, March 2003.
- Publications
Schoonover along with Donald J. Treffinger, Carole Nassab, Edwin Selby, Cindy Shepardson, Carole Wittig and Grover Young (all associated with Center for Creative Learning) have had a series of three books published: "Thinking with Standards: Preparing for Tomorrow - Elementary Level, Middle Level, Secondary Level," published by Prufrock Press.
- Awards
Schoonover received the Destination ImagiNation, Inc. Board of Trustees' Award for being key to developing the Destination ImagiNation program, for being the first BoT President and for being the first Executive Director, 2003.

Pat Shaw

- Presentations
"School Counselor and Teacher Educators: Proactive Partnerships in Education" at the Wisconsin School Counselor Association Conference in Stevens Point, February 2003.
Shaw gave the following brown-bag presentations to UWSP faculty and staff:
"Helping You Help Your Students" (with Dayle Upham) March 2003.
"Facilitating Learning: Face-to-Face and/or Online Learning" March 2003.
"Students with Learning Disabilities (with Dayle Upham) April 2003.

Dayle Upham

- Presentations
 - "For Some, Literacy = Unique Strategies" at the 3rd Annual Wisconsin Conference on GED/HSED and Adult Literacy in Oshkosh, November 2002.
 - Keynote speech "What It's like to Grow Up With a Learning Disability at the Dept. of Health & Family Services/Dept. of Corrections Conference in Oshkosh, February 2003.
 - Upham conducted the workshop "Growth and Development - Understanding Basic Growth and Development, both Normal and Abnormal, to Help School Personnel Understand and Interact with a Variety of People/Students in the School Setting" at the 2003 WEAC Spring Conference in Milwaukee, March 2003.
 - "Self-Advocacy – Giving Students a Voice" at the WI Division of Learning Disabilities Conference, Madison, March 2003.
 - "Students with Learning Disabilities: Who They Are and How to Assist Them" to UWSP faculty, March 2003.
 - "Learning Experiences, Modifications and Accommodations" and "Life as a Special Needs Student" at a district In-service day in Merrill, April 2003.
 - "Life as a Special Needs Student" to the School of Education Site-based Master's Program in Merrill, April 2003.
 - Upham and Shaw gave the following brown-bag presentations to UWSP faculty and staff:
 - "Helping You Help Your Students" March 2003
 - "Students with Learning Disabilities" April 2003
- Publications
 - Reviewed the book "Strategies for Teaching Students with Exceptionalities" for Merrill Prentice Hall.
- Offices Held
 - Named Vice President of the WI Division of Learning Disabilities, a division of the Council for Exceptional Children.

Leslie Wilson

- Grants
 - Wilson, Susan Gingrasso, Marty Loy and Kirby Throckmorton received a congressional grant in the amount of \$497,000 from Congressman Dave Obey for the FACETS (Faculty Alliance for Creating and Expanding Teaching Strategies) initiative.

Kao Xiong

- Grants
 - Xiong and Leslie McClain-Ruelle received word that the third year of the Project Forward grant was renewed in the amount of \$184,083. The five-year program is aimed at increasing the number of Southeast Asian educators in Marathon, Portage and Wood Counties.