

Water Words from the Executive Director

Summer is here, and I hope you are enjoying time in and around water! What is most exciting for the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin is seeing undergraduates and high school students on the water, engaging with each other and UW System faculty, and learning about the value of Wisconsin's remarkable water resources.



In this issue, we share stories, quite literally from the field, of new courses, research opportunities, field experiences and summer camps — all of which came to fruition because of the hard work of UW faculty and staff and the support of the Wisconsin State Legislature and Governor Tony Evers. Later this summer, we will announce additional projects made possible by the current biennial funding.

We want to thank UW-Stevens Point for hosting a July Steering Committee meeting, during which nearly 20 representatives from the 13 UW institutions and UW System discussed the Freshwater Collaborative's vision and long-term strategy. In August we will reconvene at UW-La Crosse for further strategic discussions about how the Collaborative can best use its resources to recruit and train students to meet the state's workforce needs.

In addition, we expanded our website to include more student and research outcome stories, information about funded projects and an experts' directory that will begin to serve as a resource for further collaborations. Check it out at freshwater.wisconsin.edu.

Enjoy the summer and get out on the water!

Best,
Marissa Jablonski



Spotlight Stories



Multidisciplinary Water Exploration in Western Wisconsin

A new summer course brought together undergraduates and faculty from multiple UW institutions and disciplines to conduct research in rivers, watershed and creeks throughout western Wisconsin. [Read more and watch the video produced by the UW-Eau Claire communication team.](#)



High Schoolers Explore Research and Careers at Freshwater Camp

High school students in southeastern Wisconsin and northern Illinois got a taste of college life and what it's like to be a water scientist. Students in the weeklong Freshwater Camp, taught by faculty from UW-Parkside and UW-Whitewater, learned about the importance of protecting our many water resources and the possibility of pursuing a career in a water-related field. [Read more.](#)



Wild Rice, Watershed Restoration and Hands-on High School Learning

As a first-year science teacher, Mark Valentine was looking for experts to help him teach lessons about our environment and ecosystems. He joined 17 teachers and more than 400 students from 14 schools who participated in UW-Green Bay's Wild Rice in the Classroom program. The plants were transplanted in L.H. Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve as part of a wetland restoration effort. [Read about the experience.](#) [Read more.](#)



Laura Suppes Named 2022-23 Water Policy Scholar

Congratulations to Laura M. Suppes, an associate professor at UW-Eau Claire, who was named the 2022-23 Water Policy Scholar at the Center for Water Policy. She will be developing a risk assessment model for analyzing illness from PFAS that will be accessible to the Water Policy Network, which includes faculty, researchers and students across the 13 universities. The [UW Water Policy Network](#) is supported in part by the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin, and each year a Water Policy Scholar works

on policy issues related to one of the 10 Grand Challenges.



More Freshwater News of Note

UW campuses are getting undergraduates in the field through experiential coursework and internships. Here are some noteworthy highlights from earlier this year.

- [UW-La Crosse research partnership prepares students for future water workforce](#)
- [Crunching numbers: UW-Stout researchers creating data-driven irrigation program](#)
- [UW students dive into hands-on research in Bacalar, Mexico](#)
- [UW-Madison kicks off REU program](#)
- [High-tech eye in the sky will take a detailed look at ground contaminants](#)
- [UW-Madison grad monitoring Washington Island beaches through UW Oshkosh center](#)



On the Horizon

Check out our website for additional news from the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin. To submit event and story ideas, please contact Heidi Jeter at hjeter@uwm.edu.

- Aug. 17: Freshwater Collaborative Steering Committee Meeting, UW-La Crosse
- Aug. 26: [Deadline for UW students to apply for fall field research in Mexico](#)
- Sept. 7: Marissa Jablonski presents "Environmental Impact: From the Individual to the World" at UW-Milwaukee Master Chat (virtual and in-person event)



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