

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

WICCD Economic Speaker Series with the Stimulus Group

Yvette Klauer
yalberts@uwsuper.edu

The Stimulus group at the University of Wisconsin-Superior held its first Wisconsin Institute for Citizenship and Civil Dialogue (WICCD) Economic Speaker Series on February 21. It hosted the Assistant Professor of Economics at Eckerd College, Dr. Sarah Dean, who presented her cryptocurrency research.

The Stimulus group is the club for the economics program at UWS. “The WICCD is a UW systems grant that promotes civil discord about controversial topics,” said Assistant Professor of Economics at UWS and faculty advisor for the Stimulus group Joshua Bedi.

This was the first time the event was held at UWS, encouraging anyone to attend. Bedi said, “I think it gives more of a practical side of academia. I think it allows them to engage more with some of the material and, in a sense, to interesting material. And for me especially, with this econ speaker series. I like to show them that you can literally use economics to study anything.”

The speaker event was recorded and can be found on The Stimulus group’s Facebook page. Dean and Bedi were both economics graduate students who attended George Matson together. Cryptocurrencies can be considered controversial because many are uneducated about the topic or don’t



consider it a trend for the future. Dean has experience working with cryptocurrency companies and government officials.

“It seems like for government officials, one there is a push we need to be more accepting a bit with the current people in office. There seems to be more of an appreciation and kind of desire to make crypto more popular. And two, even before the current election, there was a push to make sure that there are educational materials out there because Americans are using them. And so they want to make sure that there is accurate, more unbiased information available,” said Dean.

The next WICCD Economic Speaker Series will be held on March 4 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in Swenson Hall 1004 Erlenbach Lecture Hall. The speaker is Assistant Professor of Economics at Nicholls State University Jon Murphy, who will present his findings on expert failure.

For more information about the Stimulus group, check out their Facebook and JacketConnect group pages, and become a member or email Bedi at jbedi1@uwsuper.edu. For more information about cryptocurrency, email Dean at deans@eckerd.edu. She’s all ears for a conversation.

Passing of Local Radio Icon Paul Damberg

Maddie Schaffer
mschaff2@uwsuper.edu

Local public radio icon and news supporter Paul Damberg, 59, unfortunately passed away on Friday, February 21. Damberg spent 34 years working in public radio, spending 8 years working here at the University of Wisconsin-Superior as the Northern Regional Manager for Wisconsin Public Radio before retiring last spring due to health issues.

Paul Damberg was born March 16, 1965, in

Eveleth Minnesota. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in sociology and organizational management at Macalester College in 1987 but fell in love with public radio and local journalism through his job in public radio during college.

Although his job was based at UWS, he was employed by WPR to oversee KUWS. Damberg also spent 17 years as the development director at KUMD and 6 years as the founda-

tion director for the Human Development Center. He took part in many other community organizations in Northwestern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin, including the Boy Scouts of America and Rotary International.

Damberg will be remembered for good laughs and his compassion for helping others achieve their dreams. A celebration for life for Paul Damber is planned later this spring.



Pictured, Damberg at the directing board with environment, energy, and northern Wisconsin beat Reporter, Danielle Kaeding.

File photo by Drew Kerner | The Promethean

UW-Superior Students Write Life Stories for Senior Community Members

Psychology 325 students at the University of Wisconsin-Superior are challenged with a meaningful-project this semester: writing the life stories of elder community members. This story will highlight their life and is an impactful keepsake for the older adult.

Currently, more than 25 people are participating. Students are working alongside local caring facilities including New Perspective Twin Ports, Dove Healthcare, and Villa Marina in Superior. The hope of the project is to allow students to demonstrate communication skills and implement basic research methods in psychology while producing content and paying tribute to the life story of their partner.

Over the project, students will conduct seven interviews and develop multiple drafts. However, the project is deemed well worth it as in previous years this project has made quite a difference. Dr. Eleni Pinnow, professor of Psychology 325 and director of the project said, “A couple people did like reach out to me afterwards to say thank you so much, like that they felt like they had gained a new granddaughter.” The feedback given shows the connections students made between their elders and the effect the project can bring to the community.

Katelyn Baumann, Outreach Program Manager, felt a similar connection to the project. Katelyn mentioned how this project specifically is extremely important to her, since it started

Nov. 16 2024, around the same time she joined University of Wisconsin-Superior, she said “probably seven, eight years ago when I first started here, where a professor had his upper level psych students interviewing older adult and write a life story. Just a to honor and celebrate that person’s life in showcase, just some of those reflective moments in their life.”

She adds an interesting point about the project, the Human Development across a Lifespan project can also be impactful to the family, friends and community that is surrounding and in touch with those older adults, projects that keep the stories of those adults for a long time can be useful and come in handy when their family want to remember them and the milestones of their lives, she mentioned “they used it at their friends eulogy, they used it in their obituary because they had this thing, they had this story that they wouldn’t have had.” Katelyn shared that she has a personal connection and attachment to the certain project, since two of her family members are participating and are a part of the project, she said

“One is my great uncle. He is 92 years old, and they are Zooming with students. One is my second cousin, and she is 65.” Katelyn’s story is just a glimpse of what this semester long project can create. As the semester progresses, the project aims to create a commemorating representation of each elder community member’s life; a life story.

EDITORS NOTE : This story was written by By Emma Cooper & Tasneem Aidabi from the COMM 304 class.



Pictured Left to Right: New Perspective Twin Ports, Dove Healthcare, Villa Marina
Photo contributed by Emma Cooper and Tasneem Aidabi



Photo of Paul Roy Damberg

File photo contributed by UWS | The Promethean