

**Profile of
Jenna Graff
International Programs Manager
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
2024 Regents Academic Staff Excellence Award Individual Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- Master of Science, Educational Leadership, Emphasis: English as a Second Language; Bachelor of Arts, Spanish with Latin American Studies and Political Science, University Scholar; UW Oshkosh.
- Has served as UW Oshkosh's Director of the Office of International Education since its inception in 2003; during her tenure, has facilitated study abroad trips for over 6,000 students, led by more than 100 UWO professors and instructional academic staff to 50 countries on all continents except Antarctica; students have studied tropical ecosystems in Belize, engaged in clinical nursing practices in India and Peru, and partnered with community organizations in Nicaragua to study human rights and social justice.
- Leadership in the Office of International Education contributes to realizing UW Oshkosh's goals of fostering global citizenship and preparing students to become successful leaders in an increasingly diverse and global society; has developed expertise in many areas for the complex undertaking of developing study abroad programs, including risk management, project management, financial operations, contract negotiations, insurance, and emergency response planning.
- Recruits students, markets programs, and is responsible for compliance with relevant federal, state, system, and university regulations and policies.
- Has developed project management systems, staff training protocols, and office-wide workflow processes; recently implemented a new travel risk management software platform, highly technical work that demands patiently navigating byzantine regulations and intricate bureaucratic processes; never loses sight of the central purpose of her work, which is to provide students with life-changing opportunities to experience the world and its cultures.
- In addition to developing faculty-led study abroad programs, has supervised the orientation, retention, recruitment, marketing, and admissions of international students; has also managed the National Student Exchange, an Intensive English Program, and short-term customized group programs for students and professionals from various countries; responsible for administering the higher education segment of the state-to-state student exchange program between Hessen, Germany, and Wisconsin.
- Her efforts have enabled over 6,000 students to explore the world, expand their horizons, and connect with cultures and people they might not have encountered otherwise.

In Jenna Graff's own words:

- "I put in the effort, hours, brain power, research, and training to ensure that students at UWO have access to quality, high impact, life-changing experiences both off and on campus. This is my life's calling. I hope to make a difference in the world by making a difference in students' lives."

In the words of colleagues:

- "Ms. Graff is an engaged citizen of our university and is known across campus as a thoughtful and vocal advocate for students, faculty, and staff. She frequently participates in open forums, town halls, and the Senate of Academic Staff, where she articulates her concerns, shares her ideas, and builds connections with the greater UWO community."—*Ed Martini, Provost and Vice Chancellor, UW Oshkosh*
- "Jenna possesses outstanding organizational skills, is governed by a rare level of patience, and simply exudes positivity. To say that it is a complete pleasure to work with Jenna feels like an understatement. She is a gem in our university community, and I am conscious of how fortunate I am to have the opportunity to work with her."—*Pascale M. Manning, Associate Professor of English, President of the Faculty Senate, UW Oshkosh*