Carlson awarded Weston fellowship

Caitlin Carlson of Madison, Wisconsin has been awarded the 2006 Carl J. Weston Memorial Scholarship. Carlson is currently working as an undergraduate assistant with Sandra McLellan at the Great Lakes WATER Institute, helping with a UW Sea Grant-funded research project studying the causes of beach closings along Lake Michigan.

“Ms. Carlson has taken on an inordinate amount of responsibility for an undergraduate in terms of coordinating field work, performing the microbiology, and assuring all the data is formatted into a comprehensive database,” said McLellan.

Since spring 2005, Carlson has collected and filtered sand samples from area beaches, tested them for *E. Coli*, *Enterococci* and fecal coliforms, and extracted DNA for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) processing. She said she enjoys the combination of field and lab work, finding it rewarding to follow a research project from beginning to end.

Besides helping with data analysis and field and laboratory work, Carlson has taken on the role of mentor to new undergraduates working in the lab. Over the summer, she taught three undergraduates basic microbiological and molecular techniques, and field collection of samples.

McLellan said Carlson has honed her interests in science and research during her time in the laboratory.

“Her initial interests were in veterinary medicine and animal behavior,” said McLellan, “but as she has been exposed to research on the Great Lakes, her interests have broadened.”

“I have always been passionate about conservation of the environment,” said Carlson. “Lake Michigan is a sizable issue in Milwaukee, and saving the lakes and preserving aquatic ecosystems are very important issues that I am proud to be a part of.”

Established in 1995, the Weston Memorial Scholarship supports undergraduate students interested in Great Lakes and ocean issues. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the UW Sea Grant Undergraduate Scholarship Fund, please contact Mary Lou Reeb at mlreeb@aqua.wisc.edu or (608) 263-3296.

Wisconsin’s Water Library

**AQUACULTURE**

**a Wisconsin Sea Grant resource guide**

[www.aqua.wisc.edu/waterlibrary/aquaculture.asp](http://www.aqua.wisc.edu/waterlibrary/aquaculture.asp)

Aquaculture in Wisconsin is growing at a rate of more than 10 percent per year and has an annual value of almost $9 million. In the Great Lakes region, the commercial aquaculture business has a gross value of more than $76 million and produces more than 50 species of fish. The University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute has nurtured the growth of this industry since the early 1970s.

Below are a few of the recommended resources for current and prospective aquaculturists in Wisconsin and the Great Lakes region. A grant from the Friends of UW Libraries helped to purchase several books that are not currently available at other Wisconsin libraries.

Wisconsin residents can check out the materials online for pickup at their local public library. They can also contact JoAnn Savoy, Water Resources librarian, at (608) 262-3069 or 1975 Willow Drive, Madison, WI 53706. Suggestions for additions to the collection are welcome.

