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UWSP professor awarded prestigious Fulbright Scholarship

David Gibbs, professor of computer information systems at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point (UWSP), has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the Malta College of Art, Science, and Technology on the island of Malta during the 2007-2008 academic year. Gibbs was recently named a scholar by the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

Gibbs will teach several computing courses at the college, share his research interests with computing professionals, and take part in curricular development. On the UWSP faculty since 1999, Gibbs' areas of expertise are applied mathematics, computer science and computer programming.

"The excellence of our faculty was recognized by the prestigious Council for International Exchange of Scholars when it awarded two of the six 2007-2008 Fulbright Scholarships among all eleven UW comprehensives to staff in UWSP's College of Letters and Science," said L&S Dean Lance Grahn. "It is no surprise, then, that such excellence among our faculty guides and mentors similar aspirations among our students."

Gibbs will be one of approximately 800 U.S. educators and professionals who will travel abroad through the Fulbright Scholar Program. The program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. The program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the rest of the world.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to represent UWSP as a Fulbright Scholar and serve the faculty and students at the Malta College of Art, Science, and Technology," said Gibbs. "I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm for the teaching and learning of computer science in a progressive European nation."

Gibbs chaired UWSP's Computer Information Systems Curriculum Committee from September 2002 through May 2003. Gibbs has been an active member of campus governance at the departmental level. In addition, he is a member of the advisory board for the Dushkin/McGraw-Hill Annual Editions collection of articles for "Computers in Society," tenth edition. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from San Diego State University, and his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

This past summer Erik Wild, associate professor of biology at UWSP, was also awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and research at the Pontificia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais in Brazil during the 2007-2008 academic year.

The program operates in over 150 countries worldwide. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.

