

ABOUT WISCONSIN and MINNESOTA

Wisconsin is located in the north-central United States and is part of the Midwest and Great Lakes regions. It is bordered by Minnesota to the west, Iowa to the southwest, Illinois to the south, Lake Michigan to the east, Michigan to the northeast, and Lake Superior to the north. Wisconsin is the 23rd most extensive and the 20th most populous of the 50 states. Wisconsin's capital is Madison, and its largest city is Milwaukee. The state comprises 72 counties.



Minnesota is located in the Midwest. Minnesota was carved out of the eastern half of the Minnesota Territory and admitted to the Union as the thirty-second state on May 11, 1858. Known as the "Land of 10,000 Lakes", the state's name comes from a Dakota word for "sky-tinted water". Those waters, together with forests, parks, and wilderness areas, offer residents and tourists a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities.

Minnesota is the 12th most extensive and the 21st most

populous of the 50 States. Nearly 60% of Minnesota's residents live in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan area known as the "Twin Cities", the center of transportation, business, industry and education, and home to an internationally known arts community. The remainder of the state consists of western prairies now given over to intensive agriculture; deciduous forests in the southeast, now cleared, farmed and settled; and the less populated North Woods, used for mining, forestry, and recreation.

TEAM LEADER JULI A MOR - WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

Designer/Resort Owner

I'm the owner and lead designer at Mor Design, a full-service design studio. In addition, my husband and I own Spring Brook Resort in Wisconsin Dells, WI, which is a vacation home community with overnight home rentals, a golf course, full-service restaurant & bar and indoor/outdoor pools. In addition to my graphic and interior design work, I also assist with marketing, social media and some of the operations at the resort.



My hobbies/interests include singing, reading, walking, kayaking, acoustic music, golf, and many water sports.

Things of special interest you would like to see within Australia host district while on GSE:

I am especially interested in the tourism industry in Australia as I live in one of the largest tourism markets in our country. I would love to visit a resort or an attraction and see its operations from the inside out. I am also interested in any marketing/design opportunities such as visiting ad agencies or other entities involved in the communications world. Hopefully, this once in a lifetime opportunity will also allow me to experience and enjoy some of Australia's scenic sites as well as meet local people.

SARAH KINNARD - MENOMONIE, WI

Animal Nutritionist, Farmer - Countryside Cooperative



Animal nutritionist and livestock production/management consultant assisting animal producers in raising and maintaining healthy, comfortable and productive animals in a cost effective manner. Other responsibilities include product labeling and regulatory manufacturing compliance for the feed division of my employer.

Hobbies/Interests: Farming (raising Black Angus beef cattle, corn, alfalfa, soybeans), daughter's basketball/horseback/cattle showing activities, reading, volunteering at community events, teaching Sunday school, involvement in county fair administration, travel and gardening.

Things of special interest you would like to see within Australian host district while on GSE:

I am interested in viewing animal production sites (farms) as well as animal production supply (feed manufacturing, by-product, veterinary, and architecture) industries. Endeavors in agriculture sustainability would also be intriguing. Learning of animal and crop agriculture regulatory, environmental and compliance items would be interesting. Also, acquiring a couple more books by Australian author Sara Henderson would be fun.

KJERSTIN LANG - LA CROSSE, WI

Writer: University of Wisconsin - La Crosse Communications Department

I work in the University Communications department at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. My primary role is writing for the UW-L homepage, alumni magazine, College of Business newsletter and other publications. I also assist local media with inquiries and write press releases. I help manage our social media including Facebook and Twitter. I also manage comments on various university blogs.



Hobbies/Interests: Running, road biking, triathlons, outdoors (kayaking, hiking, skiing, camping), playing mandolin, Bluegrass & Folk music, reading nonfiction

Things of special interest you would like to see within Australian host district while on GSE:

On the professional end, I would like to visit a university - particularly a communications/marketing office. On a more personal level, I'm interested in meeting local people and seeing the scenic beauty of the area and wildlife.

FRANK GARRITANO - LA CROSSE, WI

Firefighter/EMT - La Crosse Fire Department

I serve the citizens of La Crosse as a Firefighter/EMT that responds to a variety of emergency calls including, but not limited to, fire, medical and vehicle extrications in a professional and timely manner. In addition to that, I am a member of the LCFD Technical Rescue Team that deals with specialized rescue and entrapment situations. I also work part-time as a Law Enforcement Officer and firearms instructor.



Hobbies/Interests: Staying healthy, outdoor activities (snowmobiling, alpine skiing, hiking, running), shooting sports, tactical medicine, plays bagpipes for Firefighter's Pipe & Drum Corps

Things of special interest you would like to see within Australian host district while on GSE:

Anything dealing with firefighting, emergency medical services or law enforcement would greatly interest me, but I look forward to learning anything and everything I can about Australia and its culture while there.

JENNIFER SHERMO - MILLADORE, WI

Project Manager - Security Health Plan of Wisconsin

I have cross-functional responsibilities for managing the development and implementation of business and IT projects. I collaborate with key staff to coordinate and assist in the analysis, development, management, modification, production and presentation of corporate projects in response to priorities set by Security Health Plan's Leadership Team.



Hobbies/Interests: Reading, fishing, hiking, travel, seeing/trying new things, Green Bay Packer football

Things of special interest you would like to see within Australian host district while on GSE:

Professional; Would like to visit a health insurance company (preferably with a project management office) and attend local Project Management Institute (PMI) Chapter meetings/events.

Personal; Would love to see the rainforests and national parks, visit wildlife sanctuaries and see the natural beauty of Australia.