

## PAUL MARTIN

### GRADUATED FROM EDGAR HIGH SCHOOL IN 1978

Paul Martin is currently a professor of Mathematics in the UWSP Mathematics Department. He has always enjoyed learning about science and mathematics, He recalls as a youngster sharing a bedroom with three brothers and the frequent conversations at bedtime about chemistry and math and other of their high school subjects. As siblings, they were always encouraged to engage their minds in school and in solving every-day problems on their family farm.

Paul's high school science and math teachers (Harold Guenther, Tom Gerstenberger and Mark Lack) also nurtured a strong love of chemistry, biology and nature, and mathematics. After high school Paul followed the path of siblings ahead of him to the UW at Wausau and then to UW-Madison. He became a chemical engineer and worked in industry for several years before returning to Madison to study biochemistry and mathematics and finally settling on graduate school in mathematics. He earned his Master's and Ph.D. in Mathematics at UW-Madison and began teaching at UW-Wausau in 1988. He has been at the Wausau campus since then.

Paul expresses that he is fortunate to have a job teaching a subject that he truly enjoys. It provides a wonderful mix of discovery, solving real word problems, playing with math, and joy in sharing with others.

Paul's advice to students in high school is to find something that you have a deep interest in and invest yourself fully in pursuing this subject or activity. Even if this does not lead to a job or career, the self-discipline, mind-set, and habits of perseverance will serve you well in all aspects of your life.

Paul is the ninth of eleven children of Clarence and Marcella Martin. He has two children, Adam and Sarah and resides in Wausau, Wisconsin with his wife Laura (Smith) of 35 years.