



Office of the President

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Dear Education Partner:

I am pleased to submit to you with a copy of the University of Wisconsin System's FY2009 Federal Priorities. We are proud of our efforts to provide high-quality educational opportunities to students in Wisconsin, and we are grateful for the role our federal congressional delegation plays in our success. The UW System's FY2009 priorities fall into five categories:

Key Federal Funds: This category describes the majority of the federal funding that our institutions receive, and budget priorities for research and financial aid. The Pell Grant program provides over \$64 million to approximately 26,000 UW System students who, without this assistance, might not enroll and remain in institutions of higher education. We are thankful the Congress dramatically increased Pell Grant funding and provided reductions in interest rates for student borrowers during the 1st session of the 110th Congress.

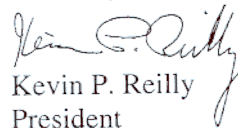
Key Legislative Initiatives: The reauthorization of the Higher Education Act continues to be a priority for UW institutions in the 2nd session. Other high priorities include the reauthorization of the Farm Bill and, in particular, restoration of the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems program and support for a new capacity-building grant program. We will also be watching patent law reform which has significant implications for WARF and WiSys, as well as the overall economic strength of Wisconsin and the nation.

UW System Priorities and Campus Priorities: UW institutions have submitted for consideration many worth while requests for federal funding. Several of the requests would improve access to, and the quality of, postsecondary education. Several requests would promote economic development in Wisconsin, and several others would also help grow research capacity in areas of state and national interest.

UW System Data: The included funding data demonstrate the importance of federal investment in each of our University of Wisconsin System institutions.

The federal investment is essential in fulfilling the mission of the UW System – to teach students, engage in research of national significance, and extend the university's reach through public service. As you look ahead to the 2nd session of the 110th Congress, please feel free to contact Kris Andrews, Assistant Vice President of Federal Relations, for information about or assistance from the University of Wisconsin System. You can contact Kris by phone at 608-263-3362 or by email at kandrews@uwsa.edu.

Sincerely,


Kevin P. Reilly
President