KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: AmeriCorps*VISTA

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service

DESCRIPTION: The Corporation for National and Community Service provides opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve communities through three programs: Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America. AmeriCorps*VISTA, with approximately 6,500 members serving in 1,200 local programs, has a nationwide focus of helping to bring individuals and communities out of poverty. For over 40 years, AmeriCorps*VISTA members have served in nonprofits, public agencies, and faith-based groups to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, increase housing opportunities, and bridge the digital divide.

CONTACT: Pamela Proulx-Curry, 262-595-2002

NOTES: Suggested changes to this funding area:

- Work towards making the Education Award earned by AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps*VISTA members tax exempt.
- Increase funding for program operation support.
- Increase grant dollars to provide relevant, local Pre-Service Orientation (PSO) for project members rather than having members attend regional PSO.

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin*: Wisconsin Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA members collectively earn up to $165,375 annually in education awards from the National Service Trust funds. These funds reduce the debt load of Wisconsin students, and afford them the chance to achieve success and contribute to the state's general welfare. In the 3rd full year of operation (2006-2007), 34 Wisconsin Campus Compact AmeriCorps* VISTA members generated 13,429 community volunteers who performed 80,055 hours of community service. AmeriCorps*VISTA members also generated more than $388,879 toward local projects through monetary and in-kind grants, donations, and fundraising.

Benefit to UW System institutions. UW-Parkside, through Wisconsin Campus Compact (WiCC), has received the nation's largest grant for a state Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA program. WiCC places 35 VISTA members at campuses to forge service-learning partnerships between postsecondary institutions and community-based agencies that serve low-income populations. During the past academic year, WiCC VISTAs have assisted 350 high school and college faculty members to integrate service-learning into coursework that engages students in projects designed to improve low-income K-12 students' academic achievement and aspirations. These courses have impacted the teaching and learning of 8,541 high school and college students. More than 13,087 low-income K-12 students were impacted through the service-learning courses and volunteer projects. WiCC VISTA projects have been recognized over 477 times in the local/regional media, increasing awareness of service-learning initiatives around the state.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Corporation for Public Broadcasting Community Service Grants
Corporation for Public Broadcasting Digital Funding Grants
PTFP funds within the National Telecommunications Infrastructure Agency-(NTIA)/Department of Commerce
Ready to Learn- Department of Education
Ready to Teach – Department of Education
USDA Rural Utilities Service (for digital translators)

AGENCY: University of Wisconsin Extension/Broadcast & Media Innovations (Wisconsin Public Television, Wisconsin Public Radio)

DESCRIPTION: Local stations receive annual federal funding for general operations through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB)'s Community Service Grant (CSG), which provides funding for programming and operations. Although it is a fraction of a station's overall revenues, it represents an important source of funding for general operations and maintaining infrastructure. CPB is advance-funded by two years. The CPB FY2008 request (submitted in FY2006) was funded at $400 million and $420 million for FY 2009. Additional programs fund equipment replacement (PTFP program within the NTIA Commerce), Digital translators (Rural Utilities-Dept. of Ag) and Ready to Teach/Ready to Learn (Education)

CONTACT: Malcolm Brett, Director, Broadcast & Media Innovations. (608) 263-9598

NOTES: CPB funding suffered a 1.75% recision of previously appropriated funds when Congress passed the FY08 Omnibus Appropriations Bill in December 2007. After 5 years of flat funding, Congress appropriated $410 million for CPB in FY 2010. We are seeking an increase to $483 million in FY 2011.

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: Wisconsin Public Radio (WPR) and Wisconsin Public Television (WPT) serve as "portals to the world" for the citizens of Wisconsin. Every week, more than 397,000 listeners and 547,000 viewers depend on access to information that connects residents to cultural, civic, and educational resources. The advent of digital technology is allowing WPT and WPR to fortify our service with targeted programming including a particular emphasis on Wisconsin programming and University related content. WPT & WPR are critical to the University of Wisconsin mission of extending the boundaries of our campuses to the borders of the state and beyond. The federal funding received allows WPT/WPR to leverage other funds to develop greater broadcasting capacity to serve the public good and to explore new technologies which support the educational, research, and public service missions of the University of Wisconsin System. These funds become increasingly important with the emerging opportunities (and costs) associated with digital broadcasting.

ORGANIZATION: Wisconsin Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Television combine the resources OF the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Educational Communications Board to comprise the 7th largest public broadcasting service in the country.

DESCRIPTION: CPB funding supports local services including broadcast expenses, education services program production and acquisition, and local community engagement. WPT and WPR provide rural and urban Wisconsin audiences with non-commercial programming that supports the cultural, civic, and educational advancement of our state.

TIMETABLE: The FY 2009 federal budget would appropriate funding for the FY 2011 budget in keeping with Congress' tradition of forward funding the Corporation for Public Broadcasting by two years.

CONTACTS WITH CONGRESS: WPT and WPR keep in regular contact with Congressional offices through our national organization, The Association of Public Television Stations. We will be visiting the delegation in person on February 12th and 13th.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

AGENCY: Department of State

DESCRIPTION: Summer Arabic Language Institute for American Youth in Jordan

CONTACT: Fritz Erickson, Dean of Professional and Graduate Studies (920.465.2050)

SIGNIFICANCE: On November 2, 2006, Dr. Bruce Shepard, UW-Green Bay Chancellor, and Dr. Eid Dirani, University of Jordan Vice President, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Jordan and UW-Green Bay. Attending were representatives of the North American Jordanian Association and the American Middle East Leadership Network. UWGB has conducted two *Journey to Jordan* programs – Arabic language and culture institutes for American secondary students – on behalf of the U.S. Department of State (DoS) Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). The program is part of a comprehensive national plan funded under the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI), *"designed to dramatically increase the number of Americans learning critical need foreign languages…. An essential component of U.S. national security in the post-9/11 world is the ability to engage foreign governments and peoples, especially in critical regions, to encourage reform, promote understanding, convey respect for other cultures and provide an opportunity to learn more about America and its citizens. To do this, Americans must be able to communicate in other languages, a challenge for which most citizens are totally unprepared."*

The *Journey to Jordan* program has had a positive impact on UWGB, the Green Bay area, the state of Wisconsin, and various organizations and agencies at national and international levels.

Campus Impact

The grants have supported UWGB faculty, staff, and student (office support) involvement. Program activity in Jordan led to a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Jordan (UJ), which will host Dr. Anne Kok, chair of the UWGB Social Work graduate program, during her fall 2008 sabbatical. UWGB plans to host a visiting scholar from the UJ during spring semester 2008. Social Work major Opal Carlson will assist the group in Jordan during summer 2008. The program has strengthened UWGB's ability to remain in contact and work with a Jordanian scholar who visited UWGB on a Fulbright fellowship. UWGB has benefitted from a tremendous degree of institutional visibility as a result of the *Journey to Jordan* program. Examples include local media attention, media coverage of student participants from across Wisconsin and other states, and attention from Wisconsin's Congressional delegation. Arab American communities in the Detroit/Dearborn area,

New York City, and other areas have voiced their appreciation for UWGB's attention to Arabic and the Middle East. School officials where Arabic is taught have voiced genuine interest in making UWGB known to their students as an institution that welcomes diversity, specifically Arab American culture and Arabic language. UWGB began offering Arabic language instruction in 2006, and the instructor and students have benefitted from resources and contacts provided as a result of *Journey to Jordan*. UWGB's connections to schools, Arab American organizations, NGO's, and others on the national and international scenes has grown tremendously, as has our ability to access unique resources for campus internationalization and community outreach.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN:

Nine of the *Journey to Jordan* student participants in 2006 and 2007 were from Wisconsin, and it is anticipated that several more Wisconsin students will participate in 2008. Student participants have returned to actively engage their schools and communities in learning more about Arabic, Arabs, the Middle East, and U.S. foreign policy related to the region. Program alums have conducted multiple media interviews, given presentations, written articles, and served in other ways as young ambassadors of informed global perspectives.

With advice and support from *Journey to Jordan* staff, Preble High School in Green Bay, Wisconsin, hosted a Jordanian school principal on the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. Program staff will help facilitate school and community programs involving the visiting scholar from the University of Jordan during spring 2008. The *Journey to Jordan* program coordinator gives occasional presentations about Jordan, Arab culture, Middle East issues and Islam for school and community groups and has developed closer relationships with Muslim and interfaith organizations in Green Bay and Wisconsin.

National Significance:

In remarks for the Congressional Record (Nov. 13, 2006, Vol. 152, No. 127), Senator Russ Feingold commented on the *Journey to Jordan* program: *"International education and exchange programs also have great potential to create beneficial relationships between communities on opposite sides of the world. These relationships can lead to increased opportunities for commerce and development for everyone. Let me give you an example. For the first time this year, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay was awarded a Department of State grant…. This is a wonderful connection between universities and countries that I hope will continue to grow. I commend those who work every day to promote international education and exchange programs, but we need to work even harder to engage more Americans in international education and exchange programs."*

Upon completion of the *Journey to Jordan* program in 2006, David Mees, Public Affairs Officer with the U.S. Embassy in Amman, thanked UWGB for its "leadership of this excellent pilot project!" U.S. Ambassador David Hale attended the institute's farewell reception in August, 2007 and voiced his personal admiration and ongoing support. On the basis of previous success, UWGB was asked by the U.S. Department of State to submit a "renewal proposal" for a third annual institute in 2008. Upon completion of that program, nearly sixty students will have been involved through grant support totaling $607,000. Student participants from states other than Wisconsin bring the same educational impact upon return to their schools and communities as described above.

The *Journey to Jordan* program has been a major accomplishment in support of NSLI educational and national security goals. Since the DoS depends upon Congress for funding in support of such programs, UWGB's success in Jordan has helped the DoS justify continued funding for similar NSLI initiatives.

As a result of increased recognition in Washington, D.C., UWGB personnel were invited to attend a conference sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education International Programs Service, titled "Fostering Connection, Collaboration, and Creative Ideas." At the conference, designed for the sharing of "best practices in international education," UWGB will present an exhibit featuring the *Journey to Jordan* program. Joining us will be a representative of the DoS Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. During our time in Washington, D.C., we have been invited to meet with the new DoS Youth Programs director in order to discuss ideas for creative new programming directions.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Department of Labor (DOL)—various funds

AGENCY: Department of Labor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Labor (DOL) fosters and promotes the welfare of job seekers, wage earners, and retirees by improving working conditions, advancing opportunities for employment, protecting retirement and health care benefits, helping employers find workers, strengthening free collective bargaining, and tracking changes in employment, prices, and other national economic measurements. The DOL administers and enforces more than 180 federal laws for about 10 million employers and 125 million workers, covering such areas as workers' rights to a safe and healthy workplace, a minimum hourly wage and overtime pay, unemployment insurance, and freedom from employment discrimination.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management is responsible for the overall implementation of the Department's procurement and grant programs. These programs are implemented through a decentralized procurement structure via several offices, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics; Employment and Training; Mine Safety and Health; Occupational Safety and Health; Office of Disability Employment Policy; and Veterans' Employment and Training.

CONTACT: Dr. Thomas Schnaubelt, 262-595-2208

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* Funding from the DOL has had a great impact on Wisconsin in terms of decreasing unemployment, increasing jobs, developing worker training programs, establishing several One-Stop Career Centers and Job Corps Centers, and protecting workers' health, wages, and benefits. Since July 2003, Wisconsin's unemployment rate has fallen from 5.7% to 5.0%, and 127,400 jobs have been created.[1] Some examples of Wisconsin initiatives supported by the DOL:[2]

- Since 2001, Wisconsin has received $1.254 billion from the DOL's Employment and Training Administration to provide skills training and career development assistance to dislocated workers and other participants.
- Over the past four years, the Mine Safety and Health Administration has awarded $1,130,843 to provide safety training for Wisconsin's miners.
- Fulfilling its role in the Energy Employee Occupational Illness Compensation program, the DOL has awarded nearly $825,000 to Wisconsinites who developed cancer and other covered diseases while working on nuclear weapons and related projects for the United States.
- Funding from the DOL has supported several One Stop Career Centers across Wisconsin. At One Stop Centers, workers, job seekers, and other participants can receive training and education, build their skills, and access federal assistance programs, while employers can use One Stop Centers to help recruit workers.

Benefit to UW System institutions. Funding from the DOL has fostered collaborative partnerships between labor-related organizations/agencies in Wisconsin and UW-System institutions. The University of Wisconsin-Parkside is involved in several of these

[1] U.S. Department of Labor: http://www.dol.gov/dol/accomplishments/WI.htm
[2] U.S. Department of Labor: http://www.dol.gov/dol/accomplishments/WI.htm

collaborations, specifically with the Workforce Development Center (WDC) in Racine County and the Kenosha County Job Center (KCJC). The WDC, a One Stop Career Center, is a model for community collaboration. Personnel from several separate area agencies are housed at the WDC and organized into teams that cut across agency boundaries. The KCJC, also a One Stop Career Center, consists of more than 18 agencies and provides a coordinated network of services to make connections between employers and job seekers. Both the WDC and the KCJC have teams that work in the areas of employment resources and career development, employment related instruction, employer services, specialized services for targeted groups, and employment supports.

The WDC, through the Racine County Human Services Department, has funded collaborative partnerships with UW-Parkside for several years with federal "pass-through" funds from the DOL. Examples of current projects and services provided by UW-Parkside that are supported by WDC funding include:

- Providing an Employment and Training Coordinator for several of the Specialized Services and Educational Services Functional Teams at the WDC; the Coordinator assists with the provision of core services at the WDC.
- Providing a Youth Team Leader who is responsible for the overall organization, development, coordination, and implementation of youth services at the WDC.
- Facilitating planning initiatives responsive to the Racine County Workforce Development Board planning committee and the Ad-Hoc education round table.
- Providing student interns for the Just-in-Time Translation Program; the interns provide bilingual interpretation services for WDC customers.
- Coordinating the Rapid Response Student Program where students work with business experts to solve real world problems.
- Employing interns to assist in implementation of the Racine County Juvenile Detention Center's operations.
- Providing evaluation services for the Youthful Offender Re-Entry Program.

The KCJC, through the Kenosha County Department of Human Services Division of Workforce Development, has also funded collaborative partnerships with UW-Parkside. Examples of current projects and services provided by UW-Parkside that are supported by KCJC funding include:

- Small business development: providing assistance to entrepreneurs in starting up new businesses through training.
- Workforce development area management: acting on behalf of Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth counties to complete tasks necessary to represent the southeast Wisconsin Workforce Development Area to the State of Wisconsin and federal Department of Labor as a single point of contact for workforce development policy, funding, and services.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Economic Development Administration – University Center (EDA-UC)

The purpose of the UW-Stout EDA University Center (EDA-UC) is to provide technical assistance to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs in rural Wisconsin. SMEs receive assistance in applying quality standards (TQM, ISO 9000, and Six Sigma), strategic planning, and strategic marketing assistance to help them become more competitive in regional and international markets. Entrepreneurs receive help in improving their product designs, determining the markets for their products, and developing their business plans. Applied research is conducted to gain a better understanding of client needs and to refine service delivery.

Economic development is an important part of the University of Wisconsin-Stout's (UW-Stout's) mission. UW-Stout is a comprehensive, career-focused polytechnic university where students, faculty and staff use applied learning, scientific theory and research to solve real-world problems, grow the state and regional economy, and serve society. Consistent with the polytechnic designation and goals, the Stout Technology Transfer Institute (STTI) promotes technology transfer between UW-Stout and business and industry. STTI draws on the University's extensive technical resources, including expertise of faculty, staff, and students, well-equipped and diversified laboratories, and a substantial network of private sector and public partners. These resources are made accessible to individuals and industry through STTI's technical centers, including the Economic Development Administration-University Center (EDA-UC).

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Commerce established this partnership between the Federal government and academia to help make the varied and vast resources of universities available to economic development communities. The UW-Stout EDA-UC's primary mission is to provide technical assistance to SMEs in the Wisconsin service area's most economically distressed communities. The EDA-UC responds to two major economic needs in rural Wisconsin:

1. Rural communities in Wisconsin need to retain higher wage jobs.
2. Rural areas in Wisconsin need more new businesses with higher wage jobs.

UW-Stout's EDA-UC has received Department of Commerce funding since 1994. The most recent award (2005) was for $458,000 over three years.

UW-Stout will be re-competing for the next three-year funding cycle in the spring of 2008.

CONTACT: Mr. Randall Hulke – Director, EDA-UC
UW-Stout
278 Jarvis Hall
Menomonie, WI 54751
Phone: 715-232-5023
hulker@uwstout.edu

SPECIFIC REQUEST: The request is for continuation of funding for the next three-year cycle at $458,000, current funding is through June 2008. UW-Stout will be re-competing for the next three-year funding cycle in the spring of 2008.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN: UW-Stout's EDA-UC helps Wisconsin businesses, entrepreneurs, and organizations become globally competitive through a combination of technical assistance, information dissemination, and applied research. These efforts include:

- Conducting training sessions and seminars in ISO, supply chain management, and regional economic development benefiting Wisconsin businesses and helping to keep Wisconsin globally competitive. In 2007, 21 individuals from 11 companies completed ISO Internal Auditor training. Several topical seminars were also offered including "Growing and Keeping Regional Business", "Project Management for Supply Professionals", "Lean Manufacturing with Live Simulation", and "Accounting for Lean Manufacturing".
- Providing direct on-site assistance to businesses and organizations in Strategic Planning, Strategic Marketing, Process Improvement, and Organizational Development. In 2007, 12 companies and organizations employing over 500 individuals received these services.
- Providing direct assistance to innovators and entrepreneurs in product feasibility, product design, prototype development, field testing, scalability, and manufacturing process evaluation. In 2007 over 50 individuals with innovative projects including alternative power generation, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) applications, and modular housing received these services.
- Supporting Technology and Business Incubator clients by providing access to the optimal combination of student, faculty, and staff resources available from UW-Stout. In 2007, current and past incubator companies reported $73 million in sales and employed nearly 400 individuals. In addition, these companies have invested over $15 million dollars to sustain their growth.

Over the past decade, clients of the University of Wisconsin-Stout's Technology Transfer Institute (STTI) and its outreach centers report that STTI has helped them achieve impacts of over $300 million. In the past year, STTI's client-reported-impacts represented a $100 return on each $1 of public investment. Additionally over the past ten years, STTI clients report more than 2,600 jobs created or retained as a direct result of STTI assistance.

BENEFIT TO UW SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS: UW System schools benefit from the EDA-UC program through formal and informal partnerships. Through its association with other STTI Centers, such as the Center for Innovation and Development (an SBDC) and the Northwest Wisconsin Manufacturing Outreach Center, the EDA-UC has been able to offer its services throughout the state. EDA-UC resources are shared with other System institutions through partnerships such as the "Idea Challenge" (growing innovation in Wisconsin's Chippewa Valley) with UW-Eau Claire and collaborating with UW-La Crosse in 7 Rivers Region initiatives such as the Equipment and Metals Manufacturing Association (EMMA) industry cluster development. Regional economic development initiatives such as the development of the IQ-Corridor through Western Wisconsin draw on the combined resources of UW-River Falls, UW-Stout, and UW-Eau Claire to grow technology-

oriented businesses. These efforts to attract and retain a highly skilled, educated workforce benefit UW-System Institutions and Wisconsin communities. The EDA-UC has supported other UW-System Institution programs by providing ISO resources and entrepreneurial support.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP)

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Education

DESCRIPTION: The Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETP) serves as a national leader in delivery of environmental education training to education professionals. EETP supports a wide array of education professionals and is committed to ensuring that ethnically diverse and low-income communities benefit from and actively participate in education that advances student learning and environmental literacy.

CONTACT: Dr. Richard Wilke, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources, Telephone (715) 346-4766; Email: rwilke@uwsp.edu

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is the managing partner for the United States Environmental Protection Agency's national environmental education program. UW-Stevens Point is proud of the success of the second Environmental Education Training Partnership under its leadership, and plans to build upon those achievements to deliver environmental education training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. to enable them to effectively teach about environmental issues. The Third Environmental Education and Training Partnership will be structured so that the environmental educators trained will become the cornerstone of high-quality, sustainable, coordinated, and comprehensive environmental education programs across the United States. The program will continue the long-term outcome of developing a more environmentally literate public whose behavior leads to improved environmental quality.

UW-Stevens Point is joined in this project by nationally-recognized organizations that will be responsible for implementing program activities. The organizations include North American Association for Environmental Education, Project Learning Tree, Northern Illinois University, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Council on Environmental Education, Project WET, National Audubon Society, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

DESCRIPTION: Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

FUND NAME AND AGENCY: The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is a federally funded program, as part of CSREES/USDA. The program provides education to low-income audiences and has a successful history of almost four decades. Research has documented the effectiveness of this program in increasing the nutritional well-being of the families it serves.

CONTACT: Laurie Boyce, Ph.D.
State Program Leader and Assistant Dean/Director
Phone: 608-263-1095; Fax: 608-265-4600
Email: ljboyce@facstaff.wisc.edu

SIGNIFICANCE: In Wisconsin, 80% of those reached (2006) by EFNEP reported incomes below the federal poverty level. Almost three-fourths were racially, culturally/ethnically diverse (40% African American, 2% Native American, 2% Asian American, 29% Hispanic/Latino). Education assists learners to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and changed behaviors necessary for nutritionally sound diets.

Poor health disproportionately affects low-income and minority populations. EFNEP saves states and families money: for every dollar invested in EFNEP, health care costs were reduced by $10.64 in Virginia; $8.82 in a group of Midwestern states; $8.03 in Iowa. EFNEP is effective in increasing the dietary intake levels of six key nutrients that are often limited in the diets of low-income individuals (protein, iron, calcium, and Vitamins A, C, B6) and increasing servings of all food groups to better achieve the new Dietary Guideline recommendations.

Wisconsin has documented the positive impacts of participation in EFNEP. Following a series of lessons:

- 85% improved in one or more nutrition practices, such as considering healthful choices when selecting food, reading nutrition labels, planning meals, feeding children breakfast.
- 76% improved in one or more food resource management practices, such as planning meals, comparing prices, using grocery lists.
- 64% improved in one or more of the safe food handling practices, such as thawing food safely and storing food properly.

EFNEP reaches two primary audiences in Wisconsin: low-income youth and low-income families with young children. During FY07, Cooperative Extension in Wisconsin had an EFNEP budget of approximately $900,000 and operated in six urban counties (Milwaukee, Rock, Dane, Racine, Kenosha, and Waukesha). EFNEP reached 2000 youth and more than 1700 adults with educational programs FY 2006.

Among the best tools yet developed to fight obesity is the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) operated by the USDA's Cooperative State Research,

Education, and Extension Service. In nearly 800 counties in all 50 states and the U.S. territories, EFNEP combats obesity by attacking nutritional illiteracy among low-income populations. The program encourages individuals and families to improve their diets, and increase physical activity. It also helps eliminate societal barriers to healthy choices.

Studies show that people who run out of food or miss meals because they cannot afford them are among the most obese. EFNEP reaches these "high risk" individuals through tried and true lessons and activities taught in peer-to-peer fashion by paraprofessionals and volunteers.

COSTS: Nutrition education is a priority of Cooperative Extension in Wisconsin. NASULGC seeks to increase funds to $68 million nationally, incrementally increasing the budget in order to expand the number of effective EFNEP efforts serving low income and minority populations. Wisconsin will benefit from this increase.

CONTACTS WITH CONGRESS: NASULGC Board on Human Sciences has advanced this request as well.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grant & Contract Programs.

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration. The US Small Business Administration plays an important role as the coordinating agency for the SBIR/STTR Programs. It directs eleven agencies' implementation of SBIR and five agencies' implementation of STTR, reviews their progress, and reports annually to Congress on its operation. Eleven Federal agencies participate in SBIR; five participate in STTR.

DESCRIPTION: Federal agencies with extramural research and development budgets over $100 million are required to administer SBIR programs using an annual set-aside of 2.5% for small business entities (SBEs), less than 500 employees, to conduct innovative research or research and development (R/R&D) that has strong potential for commercialization and public benefit. Currently, eleven Federal agencies participate in the SBIR program: DHHS, USDA, DOC, DOD, DoED, DOE, DHS, DOT, EPA, NASA, and NSF.

Federal agencies with extramural R&D budgets over $1 billion are also required to administer STTR programs using an annual set-aside of 0.30%. Currently, five Federal agencies participate in the STTR program: DOD, DOE, DHHS (NIH), NASA and NSF.

The STTR and SBIR programs provide approximately $2.4 billion annually and are highly competitive, three-phase R&D programs, and similar in that both programs seek to increase the participation of SBEs in Federal R&D and to increase private sector commercialization of technology developed with Federal funds; providing a critical source of non-equity capital to SBEs.

Funds support early stages (Phase I, tech feasibility; Phase II, prototype development) of R&D leading to the commercialization (Phase III) of high-risk technological innovations arising from either SBEs (SBIR) and/or partnering (required) with non-profit research institutions such as universities (STTR). Phase I and II combined funds normally provide up to $850,000 (more in some agencies) whereas Phase III requires non-SBIR/STTR government or private sector sources. Since 1983, $22.8 billion has been awarded nationally to SBEs.

CONTACT: Philip Z. Sobocinski, Ph.D., Asst. Director, Office of Corporate Relations, UW-Madison (608-441-8005)

SPECIFIC REQUEST: Serious consideration should be given to supporting Congressional reauthorizations and increases in Phase I and Phase II funding guidelines.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN: The SBIR and STTR Programs promote high-tech entrepreneurship and the commercialization of innovation for the social good. In particular, Wisconsin's growths of high-tech clusters owe their origin, in large part, to the availability of these federal funds. Further, these funds are a critical resource to leverage State initiatives to promote high-tech business growth and economic development through the utilization of intellectual capital and discovery. Since 1983, Wisconsin SBEs have been awarded approximately $207.3 million.

BENEFIT TO UW SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS: Participating in SBIR/STTR is a means of expressing its central role in the growth of the State's tech-based business sector and economic development. The availability of SBIR and STTR funds has been a key factor in stimulating entrepreneurship amongst UWSYS faculty, staff, students and alumni and the creation of new tech-based firms to commercialize innovations arising from academic creativity, discovery, and technology transfer (WARF/WISYS) in the biomedical as well as physical sciences.

The list of new start-ups, from UW-Madison alone, continues to grow with beginnings as early as 1984 with DNA Star, and later additions including Mirus, Stratatech, Quintessence, nPoint, SonoPlot, Scarab Genomics, Stress Photonics, Imago, Gala Biotech, Computherm, Tetrionics, PanVera, GenTel, TomoTherapy, Vitae, NimbleGen, Metabiologics, Wicab, Platypus, Procertus, Virent, GWC, Conjugon, Renovar, eMetagen, NeoClone, and Stem Cell Products to name just a few that have received one or multiple awards from one or more federal agencies.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work Study Program, Federal Perkins Loan Program

AGENCY: Department of Education

DESCRIPTION: Federal campus-based financial aid programs include the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Federal Work Study (FWS), and the Federal Perkins loan program. These are considered campus-based aid programs because the Department of Education allocates the program dollars to the schools, which then distribute the dollars to eligible students. All three programs help financially disadvantaged students pay for college. These programs provide additional financial aid to students and decrease their reliance on loans. The Federal Perkins loan program provides low-interest loans to students, which makes it an attractive loan choice. Funding for these programs needs to be maintained, at the very least. Serious consideration should be given to increasing funding for the SEOG and FWS programs. Consideration should also be given to providing new Federal Capital Contribution (FCC) funding for the Federal Perkins loan. Institutions have not received an allocation for the FCC since federal FY2004, which has decreased the amount of Perkins loan funds available to University of Wisconsin students by approximately $12 million since 2004-05.

CONTACT: Kristofer Frederick, Budget and Policy Analyst
Phone: 608.262.8939 ▪ Fax: 608.265-3175 ▪ Email: kfrederick@uwsa.edu

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.*

Financial aid programs have a tremendous impact on students who enroll in higher education in Wisconsin. Financial aid removes the fiscal barriers to higher education for low income students and as a result, increases the number of students who attend and obtain a degree. It is essential to reduce the debt load of financially disadvantaged students, especially undergraduates, to afford them the chance to achieve success and contribute to the state's general welfare. These programs provide additional financial aid, above the Federal Pell Grant, and help to make higher education a possibility for financially disadvantaged students. The Federal Work Study program provides opportunities for students to work in communities and assist in service activities, which is a tremendous benefit to the state.

Benefit to UW System institutions.

In 2006-07, UW System institutions received $22.7 million in SEOG and FWS. While no funds were provided for the Perkins Loan Federal Capital Contribution, UW institutions were authorized to distribute $35.7 million in Perkins Loan funds to students. Last year, 15,368 students received approximately $10.0 million in SEOG funds, for an average grant of $649. For FWS, 9,363 students received $12.8 million, with an average award of $1,364. In 2006-07, 16,136 Perkins Loan recipients received an average loan of $2,214. These programs provide a tremendous amount of financial support to low-income students. Without these programs, students would

need to increase student loans or work more hours to cover the cost of attendance. Both of these alternatives would have a negative impact on access and retention.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Foreign Language Instruction and International Studies

AGENCY: National Security Agency, Defense, Education, State Department, Homeland Security

DESCRIPTION: Programs in each of these agencies support development of higher education foreign language and international studies curricula. The UW System Collaborative Language Program offers five-semester course sequences in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian and Portuguese using distance learning delivery.

CONTACT: John Koker, 920.424.1210; koker@uwosh.edu
Linda S. Freed, 920.424.1415; freed@uwosh.edu

NOTES: Much of the country's future economic growth will involve emerging markets in regions and nations where these less-commonly taught languages are spoken. These languages are also critical to national security. A March, 2002 GAO report noted that several federal agencies, including the Army, State Department, and the Department of Commerce are experiencing shortages of employees fluent in key languages, especially Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Russian. According to the Department of Education, fewer than 8 percent of undergraduates in the United States take foreign language courses, and fewer than 2 percent study abroad in any given year. Foreign language degrees account for approximately 1 percent of undergraduate degrees conferred in the United States.

Sustained federal support for development and enhancement of foreign language instruction in colleges and universities can help meet this need.

- Current federal funding mechanisms typically emphasize short-term support for start-up programs.
- Assistance is also needed to enhance and expand existing programs in critical foreign languages, with a particular emphasis on strengthening programs and enhancing cost-effective and innovative modes of instructional delivery.

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* Collaborative language programs taught via distance learning enable students across the state to study less-commonly taught languages that can not be supported by individual institutions. These languages are essential to international commerce and to national security. For Wisconsin, improving the global competence of our college and university graduates is an important element in future economic development. This priority meets the objectives of the National Security Language Initiative that President Bush proposed in January, 2006. It also meets the objectives of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's December 2005 Report *Global Literacy for Wisconsin.* That report recommends initiatives along five major themes: global literacies for all students; world languages for all students; global training for all teachers; intercultural experiences for all citizens; and international linkages for Wisconsin businesses and government

Benefit to UW System institutions. The UW System Collaborative Language Program makes instruction in less-commonly taught languages of Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese and Russian available to students at comprehensive and two-year campuses where offering these courses would otherwise be cost-prohibitive.

Enhancing and expanding programs of federal assistance will enable us to compete for funding to ensure the sustainability of this program.

KEY FUNDING AREAS

FUND NAME: Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)

AGENCY: Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education

DESCRIPTION: The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) supports innovative reform projects that hold promise as models for the resolution of important issues and problems in postsecondary education. The resources of the fund are devoted to new ideas and practices and to the dissemination of proven innovations to others. As a result, FIPSE grants have stimulated some of the most dramatic advances in postsecondary education during the last 30 years.

CONTACT: Rebecca Martin, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, UW System Administration, phone: (608) 262-3826, e-mail: rmartin@uwsa.edu

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: When FIPSE managers cancelled the annual grant competition for 2005, it was a loss to UW System because FIPSE has supported innovation in our undergraduate and outreach efforts.

In Fiscal Year 2007, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities was awarded federal funds for a project called, "Wisconsin's Grassroots Teacher Quality Assessment Model: Large-Scale Assessment of Math and Science content Knowledge in Student Teaching. The grant will develop tools for assessing student teacher performance in teaching mathematics and science. Through a collaboration of state-supported and independent teacher preparation programs, there will be created a model of consensus-based performance assessment that will provide a replicable measure of student teacher performance in these areas.

In Fiscal Year 2006, the following FIPSE funding was awarded to the following UW System school:

UW-Stout was the recipient of a $450,000 award that will expand upon a new approach to teaching introductory algebra courses, assess long-term impact and expanding the program to higher level general education math courses, adapt the program to pre-college preparatory programs, and foster a workshop series.

Over the course of several years, FIPSE has touched a diverse selection of students, residents, and institutions in Wisconsin and across the nation:

- The Wisconsin Advanced Placement Distance Learning Consortium at UW-Madison provides AP courses to talented high school students from rural and diverse communities where budgetary restrictions mean that AP courses are not taught.
- A project at the Academic Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Co-Lab will result in effective online teaching methods. It will create 17 modules designed to give teachers professional development in online instruction.
- A partnership between UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Extension, UW-Oshkosh, UW Colleges, and UW-La Crosse provides online educational and career exploration programming and services for migrant farm workers and their high school-age children where they live and work.

- The Consortia for Future Leadership at UW-Milwaukee is a student exchange program between the United States and Brazil. It will provide opportunities for comparative study and post-secondary training in disability policies, program administration, and program evaluation in the two countries.
- The North American Consortium for a Culture of Peace at UW-Milwaukee is a partnership of six universities committed to innovative measures to advance the shared vision of a just and peaceful continent. It will initiate the North American Conflict Resolution Program, a student-exchange program between Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: GEAR UP

AGENCY: Department of Education

DESCRIPTION: The GEAR UP program is a grant program designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in higher education. GEAR UP provides six-year grants to states and partnerships to provide services at high-poverty middle and high schools. GEAR UP funds are also used to provide college scholarships to low-income students who participate in the program. Projects also must involve parents and communities and build lasting reforms to strengthen school curriculum and support services for students. Two UW institutions, UW-Eau Claire and UW-Milwaukee, are recipients of GEAR UP partnership grants. Funding for these programs should be maintained. Serious consideration should also be given to additional funding in order to increase the number of partnership grants.

CONTACT: Kristofer Frederick, Budget and Policy Analyst
Phone: 608.262.8939 ▪ Fax: 608.265-3175 ▪ Email: kfrederick@uwsa.edu

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin*

GEAR UP assists disadvantaged middle school students reach their potential and pursue college. Through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) Wisconsin Educational Opportunities Program (WEOP), disadvantaged students from targeted rural and urban school districts across the state are provided early intervention and college awareness services. Additional mentoring, counseling, and tutoring help students prepare academically for higher education. Education Department studies have shown that students who take academically demanding high school course work are more likely to go on to college, succeed and earn more in the workforce. All students who are enrolled in the DPI's GEAR UP program can be considered for a GEAR UP Scholarship to help fund their college education.

Benefit to UW System institutions.

Two UW institutions, UW-Eau Claire and UW-Milwaukee are recipients of GEAR UP partnership grants. In 2005, UW-Eau Claire was awarded $2.46 million over six years, while UW-Milwaukee was awarded $7.998 million for the same period. At UW-Eau Claire, the program enrolls 500 students in four schools in northern Wisconsin. Approximately 75% of the participating students are Native American. At UW-Milwaukee, a comprehensive pre-college academic support program is provided to a cohort of sixth and seventh grade students enrolled in seven high poverty schools in Milwaukee. Data from previous partnership grants at these institutions demonstrate that students perform better in school, stay in school and graduate at a higher rate than before the funding was available. Expansion of this program to other institutions across the state would provide these benefits to more students, schools and communities.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Green Power Partnership Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

DESCRIPTION: In return for technical assistance and recognition, businesses, governments and other organizations make a commitment to switch a specific percentage of their electricity to green power. UW-Oshkosh is committed to becoming a model "green" campus that incorporates principles of sustainability and environmental stewardship into all aspects of campus life – physical plant, curriculum, extra-curricular activities and research. As part of this larger commitment, the University has committed to purchasing 30% (1 million KWH) of its power from green power sources.

CONTACT: Thomas G. Sonnleitner, 920.424.3030

SUGGESTED ENHANCEMENTS:

- Provide assistance in securing grants for energy saving/pollution prevention construction projects.
- Provide funding for public outreach and community education;
- Facilitate industrial partnerships

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* Reduced energy costs for state government; reduced costs for environmental remediation; advancement of state policies of environmental responsibility and stewardship; opportunities to educate citizens about environmental stewardship.

Benefit to UW System institutions. UW-Oshkosh is one of only 17 higher education participants, and the only Wisconsin campus, in EPA's Green Power Partnership. We have become the largest purchaser of alternative fuel-generated electrical power in the state, and possibly in the Midwest. Technical assistance provided by EPA and WPS consultants has resulted in significant energy cost savings in the design of building renovations and retrofits such as the renovations of the Halsey Science Center and the Newman Center; and installation of heating plant emissions controls.

In addition to the tangible benefits, UW-Oshkosh has seen renewed awareness and motivation on the campus and in the community for creating a healthy, sustainable, aesthetically pleasing community. This has resulted in numerous University/ community partnerships in environmental cleanup, restoration, and contamination testing.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Head Start

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

DESCRIPTION: Head Start provides a comprehensive child development program for children and their families. Head Start is family-centered and community-based, providing developmentally appropriate activities for children and support for parents in their work and child-rearing roles. Head Start programs serve nearly one million children and their families nationwide.

CONTACT: Sally Wilke, Director, UW-Oshkosh Head Start. Phone: 920.424.7456.
Email: wilke@uwosh.edu
Linda Freed, Director, UW Oshkosh Office of Grants. Phone: 920.424.1415.
Email: freed@uwosh.edu

NOTES: The UW-Oshkosh Head Start Program has a waiting list of nearly 100 eligible children that we are not able to serve at all. Most of the children served are four years old, with some three years of age. Without funding for Early Head Start, we are not able to serve the younger siblings or children from birth to age three born to other poor families in our communities.

- Increasing the poverty threshold would make it easier to serve needy families who now are left out of the present system.
- Early Head Start funding needs to be increased to meet a growing need for services at all Head Start locations rather than a select few.
- Cost of Living adjustments also need to be addressed. They have not kept up with increased costs for program operations, including increased accountability standards and credentialing requirements for teachers.

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: In Wisconsin, state and federal funding has ensured over 16,000 children and their families receive the benefits of participation in Head Start. UW-Oshkosh has operated a Head Start program for nearly 40 years; Head Start grants to UW-Oshkosh serve over 600 children and their families living in poverty in Calumet, Outagamie, Shawano, and Winnebago Counties.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Health Resources and Services Administration

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Resources

DESCRIPTION: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) supports programming to increase quality of and access to health care. HRSA addresses the national shortage of registered nurses by providing both funds for nursing students (scholarships, loans and loan repayments) and grants to nurse education programs. Nursing programs in the System are currently benefitting from a 5-year, $1.45 million grant for training in new nursing technologies. In addition, two programs, the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships and the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students, consistently provide funds to support nursing students.

CONTACT: Karen Havholm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Sponsored Programs

SPECIFIC REQUEST: The Advanced Education Nursing program was funded at about $61.9 million in 2008, but no funds are requested in the president's budget for 2009. Funding this program at similar or higher levels will allow continued support of advanced nurse traineeships, particularly important to increasing the number of nurse educators. Similarly, continued funding of the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program at the ~$10 million level or higher will allow financially disadvantaged students to access training in nursing and other health care professions. HRSA programmatic funds are also critical to keeping nursing programs updated.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN: Nationally, the over-65 population is expected to double from 2000 to 2030, requiring more and increasingly complex health care services. With the average age of nurses at 45 and of nurse educators is 52 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2001 data); retirements are expected to occur faster than the pipeline can deliver replacement staff. Wisconsin mirrors this national shortage of nurses. HRSA programs provide direct support to nursing students at the undergraduate and graduate levels, to help feed the pipeline of both nurses and nurse educators.

BENEFIT TO UW SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS: In 2007, UW-System institutions received HRSA funds of $185,038 to provide nursing students Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships, $128,174 to provide Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students, primarily in nursing, in addition to the $1.45 million over 5 years for updating technology. These funds have been critical to our nursing programs being able to attract and retain higher quality students for preparation for the nursing and nurse educator workforce.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Improving Teacher Quality Grants - SAHE
(Formerly Eisenhower Professional Development Program)

AGENCY: Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

DESCRIPTION: This funding is to conduct a competition and to award subgrants to eligible partnerships comprised of at least (1) one Institution of Higher Education (IHE), including its division that prepares teachers and principals, (2) one school of arts and sciences, and (3) one high-need Local Education Agency. The partnerships use the funds to conduct professional development activities in core academic subjects to ensure that teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals and principals have the subject-matter knowledge and pedagogy skills for the academic subjects they teach. The funds received are 2.5% of 99% of Wisconsin's NCLB Improving Teacher Quality State Grants ESEA Title II, Part A allocation.

CONTACT: Phillip Makurat, WITQ Coordinator, UW-Whitewater, 800 W. Main St., Whitewater, WI 53190, Phone 262.472.5802, Email: makuratp@uww.edu

CURRENT FUNDING: FY 2007 Allocation Amount for Subgrants and Administration $1,151,666

NOTES: The definition of a high-need LEA for this program requires that the annually adjusted census data be used to identify high-need LEAs as those the districts that have at least 20 percent of the children from families with incomes below the poverty line. With this definition less than 4% of Wisconsin's LEAs qualify, however, many more Wisconsin school districts have serious teacher professional development needs as indicated by statewide test results.

IMPACT ON Wisconsin: During the 2007-08 year there are eighteen professional development projects taking place. The projects are the result of subgrants awarded to public and private IHEs with a teacher preparation program. These projects are improving the content knowledge and pedagogical skills of 1120 educators. The participating educators include school administrators, pre-service teachers, and K-12 teachers of all core academic subject areas.

A benefit of the three-way partnership is the improved communications between the higher education teacher preparation faculty and the content area faculty, as well as the improved communications between all higher education faculty and the local education agencies.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: International Education

AGENCY: Department of Education, National Science Foundation

DESCRIPTION: UW System institutions receive federal funding for international education activities. The list below is indicative of the types of federal funding UW institutions receive.

The largest source of funding for international education on the UW-Madison campus is from Title VI grants under the National Resource Center (NRC) and Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) programs, administered by the U.S. Department of Education. These grants, which are awarded through a national competition every four years, provide funding for international and area studies programs. The last funding cycle was in 2006; at which time UW-Madison received four-year awards for its international and area studies programs, including funding for its eight Centers and FLAS fellowships to the Centers for advanced training of graduate students. The funded centers are: African Studies Program; Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia; Center for European Studies; Global Studies; Center for East Asian Studies; Center for European Studies; Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Program (jointly funded with UW-Milwaukee); Center for South Asia; and Center for Southeast Asian Studies. The NRC awards total $1,864,629 per year, while FLAS awards total $1,951,500 per year. Over the four year period from 2006 to 2010, the combined grants will total over $15 million.

UW-Madison also has a Title VI funded Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER). Created by Congress in the late 1980's, CIBERs were established to help increase and promote the nation's capacity for international understanding and economic enterprise. UW-Madison's CIBER has been re-funded at a total of about $1.4 million for the 2006-2010 grant cycle.

In addition to the Title VI grant shared with UW-Madison for Latin American and Caribbean studies, UW-Milwaukee currently has several grants specifically for international education activities including the following: (1) An approximately $70,000 North American Mobility Grant from the U.S. Department of Education/FIPSE. Under this grant, UW-Milwaukee is a subcontractor to University of Louisville for trilateral U.S./Canada/Mexico student exchanges. (2) A $70,000 Department of Education/FIPSE U.S./Brazil Mobility Grant awarded to a professor of Health Sciences for student exchanges between U.S. and Brazilian institutions of higher education. (3) An approximately $90,000 NSF IRES grant awarded to a professor of Biological Sciences for short-term overseas field research experiences in Romania.

Some UW institutions also host Fulbright-funded Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA). The FLTA program provides young teachers and recent college or university graduates from abroad with the opportunity to refine their teaching skills and broaden their knowledge of American cultures and customs while strengthening the instruction of foreign languages at U.S. colleges and universities. The host institution provides tuition and fee waivers for the teachers, while the Fulbright program bears the remaining cost.

CONTACT: Rebecca Martin, Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs, UW System Administration, phone: (608) 262-3826, e-mail: rmartin@uwsa.edu

SPECIFIC REQUEST: Additional federal funding would enable UW institutions to better prepare students to live and work in our global society by enhanced activities such as expansion of study abroad and student exchange programs; creation of more opportunities for collaborative faculty and student research with institutions abroad; and strengthening of foreign language offerings, especially in less-commonly-taught languages that are critical to national security and the state and national economy.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN: The Title VI funds enable UW-Madison to continue offering a wide range of activities providing depth and breadth in international training across the UW-Madison campus, including the professional schools as well as the humanities and social sciences. These funds, plus others provided to UW institutions enable our students to live and work across cultures in today's global society. They play a vital role in International education and exchange programs play a vital role in establishing closer relations between the United States and the world.

BENEFIT TO UW SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS:

International education programs strengthen on-campus international programs, provide faculty development opportunities, and help bring the benefit of the campuses international expertise to business, K-12 and the broader public through extensive outreach. International education programs are critical in helping the University of Wisconsin System maintain its role as a national leader in international education and prepare our students with international expertise and with global awareness for the state workforce.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: NASA Space Grant College and Fellowship Program, Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

DESCRIPTION: The Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium (WSGC) is dedicated to using the excitement and vision of space and aerospace science to equip the citizens of Wisconsin with the math, science and technology tools they need to thrive in the next century. The WSGC funds fellowships and scholarships for students pursuing careers in Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology, as well as curriculum enhancement and faculty development programs, industry partnership programs, and pre-college and public service education programs.

The WSGC, now including 35 affiliates across the state, is a member of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program (also known as Space Grant), initiated by NASA in 1989. Space Grant is a national network of colleges and universities working to expand opportunities for Americans to understand and participate in NASA's aeronautics and space programs by supporting and enhancing science, and engineering education, research, and public outreach programs. The Space Grant national network includes over 820 affiliates from universities, colleges, industry, museums, science centers, and state and local agencies. These affiliates belong to one of 52 consortia in all 50 United States, the District of Columbia and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

CONTACT: R. Aileen Yingst, 920.465.2108

NOTES: Examine the growing need for a high-technology workforce in Wisconsin and work towards obtaining increased levels of appropriations for the funding of Workforce Development initiatives (e.g. Student Satellite Initiative, internships and other programs).

Increase WSGC base funding. In the last five years, membership has increased by 70%, while applications to our grant opportunities has increased in some cases by 400%.

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* The programs funded by the WSGC provide three crucial benefits to the state of Wisconsin: (1) they *recruit and support students, faculty, industries and other organizations in science, mathematics and technology by funding* research, scholarships and outreach projects in a wide variety of fields related to aerospace*; (2) they generate interest and develop technical skills in science and engineering in the students of Wisconsin*; and (3) they *provide an innovative and*

exciting way to spark or strengthen student interest and practical expertise in those high-technology skills that are most crucial to Wisconsin's workforce pipeline. Our programs provide these benefits in the way deemed most effective by the education community – *through direct, practical experience* rather than through simply hearing or seeing. Through Space Grant-funded programs, hundreds of Wisconsin students have conducted experiments in micro-gravity, built and launched rockets and high-altitude balloons, learned about aviation in summer camp settings, and taken part in other learning experiences relating to aerospace. Funding at the current level ensures that these programs will continue without interruption. Increased funding would allow the WSGC to grow and expand its programs to students across Wisconsin.

Benefit to UW System institutions. The vast majority of our funds go directly to support students and faculty, and the majority of these competitive awards are given to individuals at UW System schools. In 2007 alone, at least 60% of WSGC award monies were given to students, faculty and staff at UW System institutions. Our membership now includes eleven UW-System schools, including both two- and four-year institutions.

Each year the WSGC funds the academic scholarship and research of students and faculty at every one of our UW System Affiliate Members. For many students, this funding is what allows them to pursue a college degree in a high technology field. For many faculty members, our grants represent the seed money that allows them to pursue and win large federal grants, bringing research dollars into Wisconsin. Our membership is open to all interested UW System schools.

In a larger sense, the Consortium serves as a vehicle for building and maintaining a dynamic relationship within and among the academic, research, industrial, and professional communities in Wisconsin concerned with space science, technology, design, and development. These collaborative efforts thus facilitate interactions between each Affiliate Member and federal agencies, most notably NASA and its various centers. The WSGC strives to be an agent for leadership, cooperation and change in Wisconsin aerospace education, research and industry. Our reach is statewide, with members in every congressional district, including 11 private and 10 UW-System schools, one tribal college, 7 businesses, 3 government agencies and 4 non-profit organizations. Additionally, because Space Grant is a national program, with nearly 900 affiliates throughout the 50 states, Puerto Rico and Washington D.C., the *UW-System is plugged into this network at the highest level.*

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: National Institutes of Health (NIH)—various funds

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health (NIH)

DESCRIPTION: Comprised of 27 separate Institutes and Centers, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the principal health and medical research agency of the Federal Government. NIH is a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The mission of NIH is "…science in pursuit of fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to extend healthy life and reduce the burdens of illness and disability."[1]

NIH uses three venues to support extramural research—grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts—with most awards going to universities, hospitals, and other research institutions. The majority of awards are given for research, training, and R&D contracts (94% in FY2006).[2] Most grant applications for NIH funding are unsolicited. However, NIH also will issue a Program Announcement (PA) or Request for Applications (RFA) for projects focusing on an area of high priority or special concern. NIH grant competitions are competitive with a primary objective of funding the highest quality, most promising research projects. In Fiscal Year 2007, over 47,000 research proposals were reviewed, but only the top 21% were funded.[3]

CONTACT: Dr. Daphne Pham, 262-595-2172

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin/UW System Institutions.* Campuses in the UW System together receive on average 900 NIH awards per year. Of those, approximately 150 awards per year are for new projects.[4] The focus of these studies run the gamut from macro-level research to micro-level investigations of a specific phenomenon. The common theme to all studies is that they all yield results and findings that will facilitate NIH's mission to help prevent, detect, diagnose, and treat disease and disability and promote good health for all. Examples of recently funded research projects in Wisconsin include:

- Food Safety and Security Monitoring Project
- Child Maltreatment, Child Development, Public Policies, and Parental Addiction
- Antibiotics Discovery from the Great Lakes
- Embryonic Stem Cell-Based Therapies for Myocardial Infarction
- Proactive Risk Assessment of Primary Care of the Elderly
- Role of Estrogen in Cervical Cancer
- HIV Risk and Access to Health Care Among Mexican Migrants
- Cognitive-Emotion Interactions in Psychopathy
- Stress Regulation and Psychopathology in Adolescents
- Stem Cell Therapy and Growth Factor Therapy for ALS

Funding from NIH has supported a variety of research programs at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside (UWP), and has fostered the development of collaborative partnerships between our campus and other institutions. For example, a faculty

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[1] About NIH: http://www.nih.gov/about/index.html#mission
[2] Office of Extramural Research Award Data information: http://www.grants.nih.gov/grants/award/awardtr.htm
[3] Office of Extramural Research: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/award/success/Success_ByIC.cfm
[4] Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects (CRISP) searchable database: http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/

member at UWP received over $1.5 million for two projects conducted in collaboration with the University of Arizona:

- Transcriptional Regulation of Insect Ferritin—a study examining the regulation of ferritin, an iron-binding protein, in the yellow fever mosquitoes (Aedes Aegypti)
- Regulation of Ribonucleotide Reductase in Aedes Aegypti—a study designed to dissect the transcriptional regulation of RNR following blood feeding in the yellow fever mosquitoes (Aedes Aegypti)

Northwestern University has funded a multi-year, collaborative partnership with a faculty member from UWP with federal "pass-through" funds from NIH. The faculty member has been involved in on-going research examining various factors that affect circadian rhythms and mechanisms for restoration of the rhythms.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant, Academic Competitiveness Grant

AGENCY: Department of Education

DESCRIPTION: The National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant, also known as the SMART Grant, provides up to $4,000 for the third and fourth years of undergraduate study to full-time students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant and who are majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, technology, engineering or in a foreign language determined critical to national security. The Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) provides up to $750 for the first year of undergraduate study and up to $1,300 for the second year of undergraduate study to full-time students who have successfully completed a rigorous high school program, as determined by the state or local education agency and recognized by the Secretary of Education. Second year students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0. Both the SMART Grant and ACG awards are provided in addition to a student's Pell Grant award. The ACG and SMART Grant were first awarded in 2006-07.

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IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin:*

Financial aid programs have a tremendous impact on students who enroll in higher education in Wisconsin. Financial aid removes the fiscal barriers to higher education for low income students and as a result, increases the number of students who attend college and obtain a degree. The ACG and SMART Grant programs provide an additional source of financial aid for Pell Grant recipients and help to make higher education a possibility for financially disadvantaged students. The SMART Grant encourages financially disadvantaged students to pursue degrees in high demand fields that will be the backbone of the Wisconsin's economy in the future.

Benefit to UW System institutions.

In 2006-07, which was the first year for which funds were available under these programs, UW System schools received $6.3 million in SMART and ACG funding. Approximately 5,200 students will receive funding from these programs. Last year, 872 students received $2.8 million in SMART funds, with an average grant of $3,214. For ACG, 4,359 students received $3.5 million, with an average award of $810. When combined with a Pell Grant, which SMART and ACG recipients also receive, these programs can help cover a significant portion of tuition at fees at a UW institution. Without these programs, which are supplemental to the other financial aid programs, low-income students would need to either increase loans or work more hours to cover the cost of attendance, which would have a deleterious impact on access and retention.

KEY FUNDING AREAS

FUND NAME: National Science Foundation (NSF)

AGENCY: National Science Foundation

DESCRIPTION: The National Science Foundation funds research and education in science and engineering. It does this through grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements with colleges, universities, and other research and/or education institutions in all parts of the United States. The Foundation accounts for about 20 percent of federal support to academic institutions for basic research. Each year, NSF receives approximately 30,000 new or renewal support proposals for research, graduate and postdoctoral fellowships, and math/science/engineering education projects; it makes approximately 10.000 new awards. These typically go to universities, colleges, academic consortia, nonprofit institutions, and small businesses.

NSF is truly a center of excellence in the U.S. government. More than 95% of its funds are distributed on a competitive basis directly to researchers, with very low overhead cost. Since 1950, Nobel Prizes have been awarded to more than 170 U.S. and U.S.-based researchers who have been supported by NSF grants throughout their careers.

For the current fiscal year, NSF's Research and Related Activities account is funded at $4.8 billion, an increase of $56 million over the Fiscal Year 2007 funding level. The major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction account received $220.7 million; and the Education and Human Resources account received $725.6 million.

CONTACT: Rebecca Martin, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, UW System Administration, phone: (608) 262-3826, e-mail: rmartin@uwsa.edu

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: UW System institutions received funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) totaling more than $121,000,000 in FY2006. These grants support basic research, undergraduate research and curriculum development. Examples of projects funded by NSF at UW System institutions include:

- At UW-Eau Claire, a grant for major research instrumentation to acquire an instrument for faculty-student collaborative research in chemistry, as well as a grant for summer undergraduate research experience;
- At UW-La Crosse, Research in Undergraduate Institutions award to support high resolution spectroscopy of stable molecular species and solid/liquid phrase diagrams of Aqueous inorganic and organic substances;
- At UW-Milwaukee, a Partnership for Innovation project award to the School of Nursing to extend the efforts of the Knowledge-based Nursing Initiative;
- At UW-Oshkosh, an award to study the Galactic spiral structure using a photometry approach. The research has potential broad contribution to the field of astronomy.
- At UW-Stevens Point, a grant award will be used to integrate research, education and outreach at UW-SP's Treehaven Center;
- At UW-Madison, NSF research and development expenditures accounted for about $114 million during Fiscal Year 2006.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: National Sea Grant College Program

AGENCY: Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Sea Grant Office

DESCRIPTION: The Sea Grant College Program is a national program of research, outreach and education dedicated to scientific inquiry for the practical use and conservation of the nation's ocean, Great Lakes, and coastal resources. The program's funds are awarded on a competitive, peer-reviewed basis. The University of Wisconsin Sea Grant College Program is a statewide UW System program that receives nearly $2 million in federal funding annually. Administered by the UW-Madison Sea Grant Institute, it is the only source of federal Sea Grant funding in the state. UW Sea Grant combines those funds with over $1 million in funds from the state of Wisconsin to serve as a grant agency, awarding a total of about $3 million annually to public and private universities and colleges in Wisconsin.

CONTACT: Anders W. Andren, Director, UW Sea Grant Institute, telephone (608) 262-0905, email awandren@aqua.wisc.edu, fax (608) 262-0591, website www.seagrant.wisc.edu

SPECIFIC REQUEST: The Sea Grant community is requesting a FY 2009 appropriation of $72 million, a target level consistent with the current authorization (see below), yet substantially higher than the President's FY 2008 request of $55 million, which, if approved, would freeze the program's budget for the third consecutive year. This does not include $5 million to provide merit funding for deserving Sea Grant College Programs (*a recent federal review rated the Wisconsin Sea Grant program among the best in the nation*). Base appropriations for the program during the last two decades have not kept pace with inflation, which has decreased the program's "buying power" by nearly 40 percent. This makes supporting a funding level in FY 2009 of $72 million even more important as we attempt to reverse the reductions the national program and the state programs have had to endure in recent years.

Authorization: Public Law 107-299, "The National Sea Grant College Program Act Amendments of 2002," reauthorized the Sea Grant program for five years through FY 2008. It authorized $82.5 million for FY 2007 and $85 million in FY 2008 for program base funding. In addition, it authorized $5 million annually for zebra mussel and invasive species research, $5 million for oyster disease research, $5 million for research on harmful algal blooms and $3 million for enhancing fisheries extension activities.

Reauthorization of the National Sea Grant College Program began June 22, 2007, with the introduction of a bill in the House (H.R. 2836, introduced by Rep. Faleomavaega) that would authorize appropriations of $100 million annually for the National Sea

Grant College Program for fiscal years 2009 through 2013. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. Discussions with the National Sea Grant Office, the Sea Grant National Review Panel, the Sea Grant Association and Congressional staff began in December to help set the stage for the reauthorization process.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN:

UW Sea Grant provides an essential link between Wisconsin researchers, users and managers of Great Lakes and ocean resources. Some examples of the specific impacts include:

- UW Sea Grant is supporting research and outreach on beach closings caused by bacteria (*E. coli)* as well as the excessive growth of *Cladorphora* algae. A UW-Milwaukee researcher is evaluating samples from five Door County beaches, five Manitowoc-area beaches, and two Milwaukee beaches. She identified two major sources of fecal pollution at Milwaukee's Bradford Beach, which prompted several actions by the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County to remediate the problem.
- The problem of accelerated corrosion of 13 miles of steel pilings in Duluth/Superior harbor has been a major focus of UW Sea Grant's coastal engineering program since August 2004. To date, his effort has included sponsoring an expert panel workshop on possible causes, several public presentations and two new research studies to help characterize the problem and guide future studies. If the problem isn't addressed, the Duluth Seaway Port Authority estimates the weakened steel structures could cost more than $90 million to repair.
- UW Sea Grant's geographic information systems specialist developed a Great Lakes Coastal Communities section for the online Community Planning Resource (CPR), a free electronic toolkit designed to support comprehensive "smart growth" planning and sustainable development along Wisconsin's Lake Michigan and Lake Superior coasts. It includes hundreds of annotated resource pointers on coastal issues, natural hazards, laws and regulations, model plans and ordinances, training opportunities, maps and data, and news and current events.
- UW Sea Grant's Aquaculture Advisory Services Program has become a principal source of information and technical assistance to the state's rapidly developing, multimillion-dollar aquaculture industry. Over the last five years, more than 3,000 Wisconsin citizens have attended aquaculture conferences, workshops and lectures sponsored or co-sponsored by UW Sea Grant. In 2005, UW Sea Grant published *Best Management Practices for Aquaculture in Wisconsin and the Great Lakes Region*, a comprehensive management manual designed to support the growth and development of a sustainable aquaculture industry throughout the region.
- UW Sea Grant's 11 Advisory Services and Communications specialists partner with hundreds of organizations and individuals on more than 200 different outreach activities each year, providing outreach, training and information to thousands of Wisconsin residents.

BENEFIT TO UW SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS:

During 2007-08, 107 faculty, staff and students, 16 departments will be involved in Sea Grant projects at seven UW System campuses (UW–Madison, UW–Manitowoc, UW–Milwaukee, UW–Green Bay, UW–Oshkosh and UW–Superior) and two private universities (Marquette University and Lawrence University).

The program also supports Sea Grant Advisory Services field offices on UW campuses at Green Bay, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Superior.

During its 39-year history, since 1968, UW Sea Grant assistantships have helped more than 549 Wisconsin college students earn their master's and doctoral degrees through research and project assistantships.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Federal Pell Grant

AGENCY: Department of Education

DESCRIPTION: The Federal Pell Grant program provides need-based financial aid to low income students. For 2007-08, the maximum amount a student can receive under this program is $4,310. The maximum is scheduled to increase to $4,731 for the next academic year. These amounts, however, will not pay for the tuition and fees at any UW four-year institution. The buying power of the Pell grant has decreased dramatically in the last 20 years. As a result, students have had to increase their reliance on loans to pay the remainder of the cost of education. Serious consideration should be given to increasing the maximum award to a level that would pay for tuition and fees at most of the UW four-year institutions, $6,300 on average.

CONTACT: Kristofer Frederick, Budget and Policy Analyst
Phone: 608.262.8939 ▪ Fax: 608.265-3175 ▪ Email: kfrederick@uwsa.edu

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin:*

Financial aid programs have a tremendous impact on students who enroll in higher education in Wisconsin. Financial aid removes the fiscal barriers to higher education for low income students and as a result, increases the number of students who attend and obtain a degree. It is essential to reduce the debt load of financially disadvantaged students, especially undergraduates, to afford them the chance to achieve success and contribute to the state's general welfare.

Benefit to UW System institutions.

In 2006-07, about 28,700 UW System students received a Federal Pell Grant. The total dollars expended for the program was approximately $71.2 million with an average award of $2,481. This reflects a 3% increase in the number of Pell grant recipients and a 1% increase in the total Pell funds available from 2005-06. Although funding for the Pell grant program has increased in the last decade, borrowing among UW System students increased at a much higher rate. In 1996-97, 60,586 borrowers took out $282.8 million in loans. In 2006-07, those numbers increased to 88,182 borrowers and $625.8 million in loans. The amount of money borrowed increased 121% during that time period, while dollars for the Pell grant program increased by only 97%. In 2006-07, UW students receiving baccalaureate degrees had accumulated average loan debt of $21,104. Many students must work significant hours to help pay their way through college. Increasing the amount of grant money available for student financial aid would mean that more students could study full-time and dedicate their time to class work.

KEY FUNDING AREAS

FUND NAME: Small Business Development Centers

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration

DESCRIPTION: America's small businesses have historically been the engine of our nation's economic growth, but in recent years they have not received the support they need from their government. With its array of counseling and training services, and a proven record of creating jobs and generating growth for our nation's small businesses, the U.S. Small Business Development Center (SBDC) network can help small businesses get started and succeed. Unfortunately, federal funding for our nation's SBDC network has actually decreased in real terms since FY 2001.

We appreciate support for the SBDC network in past years. So that the network might continue with its contributions to our country's economic development, we urge your continued strong support for the SBDC in the FY 2009 budget.

CONTACT: Gayle Kugler, Wisconsin SBDC State Director, 608.263.7794

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* The SBDC Network in Wisconsin has a proven record of creating jobs and generating growth for Wisconsin small businesses. Last year, its services helped create or retain over 1,200 full-time jobs and generated more than $100 million in sales increases for 1,959 clients. We also help entrepreneurs avoid failure by discouraging unviable business ideas.

Funding for the Wisconsin SBDC program generates more state tax revenue than it costs the taxpayer. For every state dollar spent on SBDC services, more than $2 is generated in tax revenue.

Benefit to UW System institutions. Through its services, the SBDC supports UW Extension's goals of: a) educating and helping agricultural producers, related businesses, and consumers apply the knowledge gained from basic and applied research, and b) strengthening the economy of Wisconsin and the economic interests of working people through educational and counseling programs for business owners/managers, employees, and entrepreneurs.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: State Water Resources Research Institute Program

AGENCY: U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey

DESCRIPTION: The Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) Program is a federal-state partnership of research, outreach and education dedicated to planning, facilitating and funding activities related to state, regional and national water problems. WRRI funds are awarded on a competitive, peer-reviewed basis. One of 54 Water Resources Research Institutes nationwide (including Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands), the University of Wisconsin Water Resources Institute (WRI) is a UW System program that serves as the only source of federal WRRI funds in the state. As such, it also serves as a granting agency by awarding or passing through federal dollars to public and private colleges and universities in Wisconsin. Base program funding presently provides approximately $92,000 per year from the U.S. Geological Survey. The WRI must match every federal dollar with at least two non-federal dollars. In our case, base support is matched at a level of $184,000 by state and university support. Research project funding totals $400,000 to $500,000 per year, largely due to state support for the UW System's Wisconsin Groundwater Research Program (WGRP), which is administered through the WRI. The WGRP has been responsible for support that has established the UW System as a national leader in groundwater research. Currently, 11 departments at four UW System campuses and Beloit College are involved in the overall WRI program, through base support, WGRP funds and successful projects funded through the WRRI's national competitive grants program.

CONTACT: Anders W. Andren, Director, UW Water Resources Institute, phone (608) 262-0905, email awandren@aqua.wisc.edu, fax (608) 262-0591, website wri.wisc.edu

SPECIFIC REQUEST: The Water Resources Research Institutes Program is funded in the Department of the Interior appropriations bill. The FY 2009 funding level recommended by the National Institutes of Water Resources (NIWR) is $8.775 million, of which $7.0 million is for the Section 104b base program and $1.5 million will support one-for-one competitive matching grants for Section 104g research addressing national and regional water resources problems. The recommended funding level represents an increase of $2.371 million over the FY 2008 budget approved by the House and Senate Interior Appropriations subcommittees and an increase of $2.475M over the $6.3 million FY 2008 budget signed by the President on December 26, 2007. The $6.3M budget is also roughly equal to the FY 2006 funding level.

The most recent reauthorization legislation was approved unanimously by both the Senate and the House and signed into law (P.L. 109-471) by President Bush on January 11, 2007. It reauthorized the Water Resources Research Institute Program for a period of four years, from October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2011, at a level of $12 million annually.

The funds above the FY 2008 appropriation level will be used to: (1) strengthen the base research program of the institutes in each state; (2) conduct vigorous

technology transfer from the universities to stakeholders, and (3) bolster the national competitive grants program, particularly in the area of water-supply enhancement. The Administration did not request funding for the Water Resources Research Institute Program in the FY 2009 U.S. Geological Survey budget. The FY 2007 appropriation for the WRRI Program was $6.404 million.

BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN:

WRI provides a vital link between Wisconsin researchers, managers and users of water resources throughout the state. Specific benefits to Wisconsin include:

- Support for critical research on groundwater and surface water supply and quality, wastewater treatment and disposal, watershed management and nonpoint-source pollution, pollution cleanup and remediation, and public health. Economic, social and political issues are investigated as well as scientific, technical and engineering aspects of water problems. An average of 15 short- and long-term projects of either a fundamental or applied nature are funded annually in a balanced program of laboratory, field and computer modeling studies and applications designed to preserve or improve groundwater quality in Wisconsin.
- WRI cosponsors the annual conference of the Wisconsin Section of the American Water Resources Association, which is attended regularly by approximately 300 water resource managers, professionals and students from throughout the state.

Recent examples of WRI-funded research in Wisconsin include:

- Investigating the causes of changes in groundwater recharge rates in southeast Wisconsin and developing groundwater recharge estimates for a groundwater flow model for that region. Groundwater levels have dropped more than 450 feet around Milwaukee and Waukesha over the last 100 years. Groundwater resource managers can use this type of model to deal with similar drawdown issues in the Lower Fox River valley, Lake Winnebago watershed and Dane County.
- Evaluating rain gardens—sunken gardens that collect storm water runoff—as a way to reduce runoff and enhance groundwater recharge in urban areas. WRI researchers developed a user-friendly computer program that designs and evaluates the performance of bioretention facilities, which was used by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to develop new rules for storm water infiltration practices. The researchers also developed a technical design manual for bioretention facilities published by the WRI in February 2006. The WRI has made the manual available online free of charge to encourage the use of bioretention facilities to enhance groundwater recharge throughout Wisconsin, and to date more than 10,000 copies of the manual have been downloaded.
- Participating in a landmark study at the Experimental Lakes Area in Ontario, Canada, to determine the degree to which atmospheric sources of mercury affect methylmercury concentrations in fish. In a paper published in September 2007 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, this study demonstrated, for the first time, a cause-and-effect relationship between the atmospheric deposition of mercury to a lake's surface and increased methylmercury levels in its fish. The policy implication is that reductions in

- mercury emissions will quickly result in lower levels of methylmercury in fish and reduce the health risk it poses to fish consumers.
- Exploring noninvasive geophysical methods for quickly and inexpensively identifying aquifers susceptible to contamination.
- Developing an inexpensive, high-performance photoactive adsorbent for the simultaneous removal of two of the most toxic forms of arsenic in groundwater. Preliminary results indicate photo catalytic adsorbents can simultaneously remove both arsenite and arsenate from groundwater and that it may be feasible to use this technology in drinking water treatment plants.

BENEFIT TO U.W. SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS:

During the current year, 48 faculty, staff and students at UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Green Bay and Beloit College are involved in projects supported by or through the WRI.

Each year, WRI provides 20 to 25 graduate and undergraduate students in the UW System with opportunities for training and financial support while they work toward their degrees. Currently, the program supports a total of 26 students (17 graduate and nine undergraduate students).

The WRI makes current water-related information easily accessible to anyone with an interest in water-related issues by supporting a Web site (wri.wisc.edu) and the UW-Madison Water Resources Library (WRL), which houses a nationally unique collection of documents covering all major topics in water resources. The library's catalog is available online, making the WRL a global resource whose extensive holdings are searchable via the Internet. The collection includes over 30,000 documents available for loan, thousands of which are loaned annually.

KEY FUNDING AREAS

FUND NAME: Teaching American History Grant Program

AGENCY: Department of Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement

DESCRIPTION: This grant supports professional development for U.S. history teachers. It is designed to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge and understanding of and appreciation for U.S. history. The grants are given to local education agencies (such as CESAs) to work with institutions of higher education in order to create and evaluate models for professional development. By helping teachers develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of U.S. history as a separate subject matter within the core curriculum, the Teaching American History Grants improve instruction and raise student achievement.

CURRENT FUNDING:

All funds for the 2007 grants:

CESA 6	$998,158
MADISON METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT	$997,469

All funds for the 2005 grants:

La Crosse School District/UW-La Crosse	$999,118
CESA 10/UW-Eau Claire	$1,522,596

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* Improving the effectiveness of teaching and learning American History in Wisconsin schools will have a positive impact on developing informed, engaged citizens who understand their national heritage and its relationship to addressing the issues and challenges facing us today.

Benefit to UW Institutions. A number of UW System campuses have benefited from recent Teaching American History grants:

In Fiscal Year 2007, CESA 6 and the UW-Oshkosh, UW-Green Bay, UW-Marathon County and other partners were awarded a grant for a project called, "Exploring American Freedom: Defining, Expanding, and Defending a National Principle." This professional development initiative addresses the need to strengthen teachers' content knowledge of U.S. history, increase skills for understanding historical narratives, and increase teacher capacity to use documents and incorporate historical thinking and student-centered learning principles into American history classrooms.

Also in Fiscal Year 2007, the Madison Metropolitan School District, in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and other partners, was awarded a grant for a project called, "Building Informed Citizens." The project will provide professional development in American history teaching to 70 social studies teachers who will each participate in the program for three years.

- In Fiscal Year 2005, UW-La Crosse, the La Crosse School District, and a number of other partners collaborated to provide an intensive, content-rich professional development program in history education for 60 fourth through twelfth grade teachers in primarily rural districts in western and central Wisconsin. The program is called, "Central Wisconsin History Collaborative."

- CESA 10, UW-Eau Claire, and a number of consortium partners collaborated to create "Making Americans, Making America: Community, Citizenship, and the Constitution," a program to help teachers increase student achievement levels in traditional American history.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Title III Part A—Strengthening Institutions Program

AGENCY: Department of Education, Office of Institutional Development and Undergraduate Education Service

DESCRIPTION: This competitive grant program helps strengthen higher education institutions. The grants are awarded for a broad range of purposes, such as faculty development, administrative management, institutional planning, academic programs and student services. The program awards small, one-year "planning" grants, followed by large, five-year "development" grants. By helping institutions where they need it most, Title III grant programs improve both academic quality and fiscal stability at grantee institutions.

In recent years, UW-Eau Claire, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, UW-Whitewater and UW Colleges have all won Title III Strengthening Institutions grants. Listed below are examples of the programs funded by the grants:

- UW-Eau Claire received $1.65 million over five years to increase retention and graduation rates through the use of telecommunications and to enhance the effectiveness of academic programs through the appropriate and selective application of informational technology to classroom instruction.

- UW-River Falls won an award in 1999 that provided $1.5 million over five years to reinvent and expand its Outreach unit to better serve non-traditional students, businesses, and non-profits in the St. Croix Valley, and also to expand and improve its Academic Success Center. In 1998, the Outreach unit was very weak; today, it is a vibrant part of the university and provides services and programs crucial to the economic development of the area. Title III funding helped Outreach develop 20 new programs, convert 10 programs to online delivery, and increase the unit's budget to $1 million per year.

- UW-River Falls and Chippewa Valley Technical College won a cooperative Title III grant in 2006: $2.5 million over five years, divided roughly equally between the two institutions. *Stronger Together: An Educational Partnership for the Changing Economy* will help both institutions expand their capacity to deliver courses and programs to working adults through non-traditional means of delivery: online instruction, combinations of online and face-to-face, interactive TV and webcasts, flexible scheduling.

- UW-Stout received a Title III planning grant in FY 2003, followed by a five-year development grant starting in FY 2004, to integrate its advising and assessment with technologies that will better serve students. For the next four years, Title III grants will amount to $1.75 million in support for UW-Stout. This support will translate into new programs for student engagement, advising, and career development that will improve student retention and graduation rates.

CONTACT: Bill Campbell, UW-River Falls, 715-425-3195.

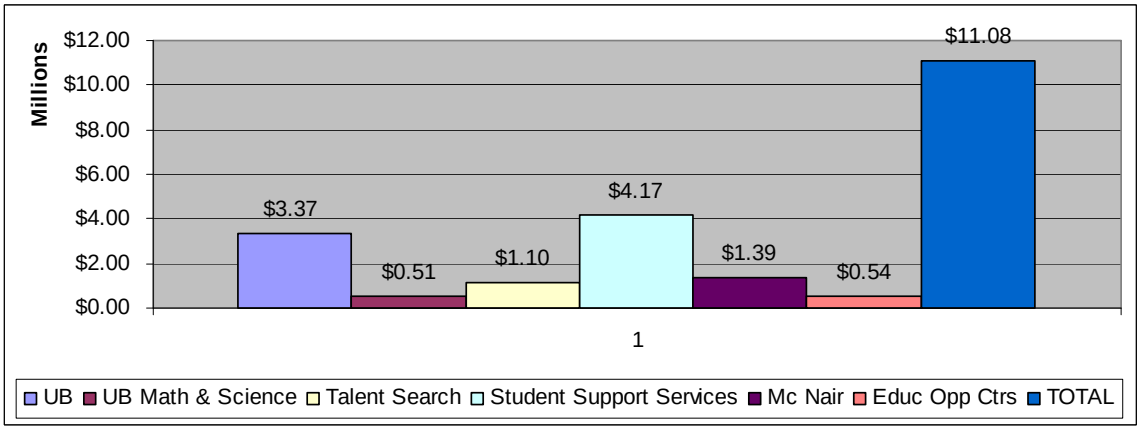
IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: Title III grants have had significant impact on the academic and fiscal integrity of more than half of the UW System institutions by allowing the institutions to invest in the programs they need most. They have also helped Wisconsin institutions of higher education maintain a high level of academic excellence and a commitment to the fulfillment of the "Wisconsin Idea."

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: TRIO

AGENCY: Department of Education

DESCRIPTION: TRIO is the umbrella name for several programs established under the Higher Education Act of 1965 that allow low-income students, first-generation college students, and students with disabilities to begin and complete a post-secondary education.
There are currently six TRIO programs:

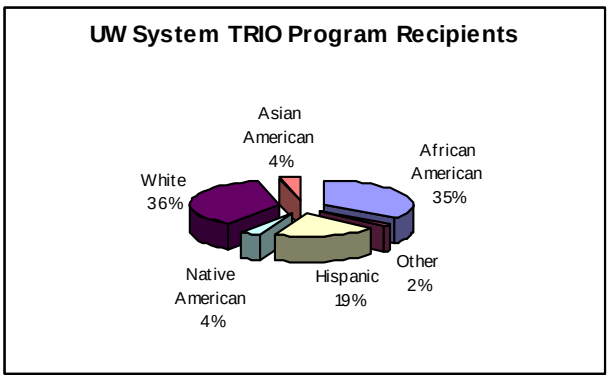


- Upward Bound – precollege programs that help eligible students and veterans prepare for higher education.
- Upward Bound Math & Science – precollege programs that help eligible students and veterans prepare for higher education.
- Talent Search – precollege program that serves young people in grades six through twelve by helping them better understand educational opportunities and options.
- Student Support Services – Assistance for disadvantaged or disabled students.
- McNair Program – encourages eligible students to consider careers in college teaching, as well as prepare for doctoral study.
- Educational Opportunities Centers – programs that serve displaced or underemployed workers by helping them choose a college and a suitable financial aid program.

CONTACT: Vicki Washington, Office of Academic Diversity and Development
Phone: 608.262.8636

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: *Benefit to Wisconsin.* TRIO program participants come from a wide range of racial and ethnic backgrounds (see pie chart).

Benefit to UW System institutions.
TRIO is essential to the UW System institutions. The TRIO college participation rate in the UW System exceeds the national rate of 73%. For example, at UW-River Falls, 100% of Upward Bound students are accepted to a post-secondary institution;



at UW-Green Bay, 92% of Upward Bound Math/Science students enroll in college, and 100% of UW-Manitowoc Upward Bound students enroll in postsecondary education. Without TRIO and without Upward Bound in particular, UW System would experience a considerable decline in college participation rates for students of color and low-income students.

In 2006, the following UW System institutions received TRIO funding – a total of $11,081,522 in TRIO grants with 8,665 participating students:

Institution	**TRIO $**	**students**	**Institution**	**TRIO $**	**students**
UW-Manitowoc $	307,258	61	UW-Eau Claire $	1,218,452	1,483
UW-Green Bay	582,443	109	UW-La Crosse	767,654	460
UW-Madison	520,502	300	UW-Parkside	276,793	160
UW-Milwaukee	1,511,023	2,200	UW-Oshkosh	367,108	300
UW-Platteville	348,516	300	UW-River Falls	833,343	294
UW-Stevens Point	674,129	290	UW-Stout	820,449	1,130
UW-Superior	733,346	230	UW System	460,659	95
UW-Whitewater	913,268	803	UW-Waukesha	526,629	450
			TOTAL for UW System	$11,081,522	8,665

UW System is pleased with the support received for the *Talent Search* program. However, funding levels for other TRIO programs have remained flat (see table below). In particular, as the UW System institutions focus efforts on increasing diversity across the sciences, *Upward Bound Math & Science* programs lag behind more general precollege programs. Most importantly, UW System has identified as a priority in the next five years improving the retention and graduation rates of students of color and low-income students. Efforts in this area have been hampered by flat funding levels in *Student Support Services*.

TRIO Program Funding in the UW System
FY 2005 and FY 2006

TRIO Programs	FY2005 (millions)	FY2006 (millions)
Upward Bound	$3.37	$3.37
Upward Bound Math & Science	$0.51	$0.51
Educational Opportunity Centers	$0.54	$0.54
McNair Project	$1.39	$1.39
Talent Search	**$0.88**	**$1.01**
TRIO Dissemination Grant	**$0.20**	**N/A**
Student Support Services	$4.17	$4.17
TOTAL	**$11.06**	**$10.86**

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: Smith-Lever Act; Hatch Act; McIntire-Stennis; National Research Initiative; Animal Health Disease Program

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Agriculture

DESCRIPTION: USDA provides leadership and supports many federal programs that promote and enhance Wisconsin's rural economic, agricultural competitiveness and our precious natural resources.

CONTACT: Rick Klemme, Interim Dean of Cooperative Extension
Phone: (608) 263-2775; FAX: 608-265-4545; Email: richard.klemme@ces.uwex.edu

SPECIFIC REQUEST:

Smith-Lever Act:

FY2008 Formula 3(b) &(c): $274,660,000
Proposed FY 2009: reduce by $1,479,000
Recommendation: Funding level is acceptable, considering federal budget deficit and cuts to other appropriations. Support the administration's request.
Impact on Wisconsin: Minimal impact. Funding levels expected to remain the same with a 0.7% rescission ($57,405).

FY2008 3(d) Programs: Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program $65,557,000 Farm Safety $4,726,000 Renewable Resources Extension Act $4,008,000
Proposed FY 2009: Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program $62,280,000 Farm Safety $0 (eliminated) Renewable Resources Extension Act $4,052,000
Recommendation: Farm Safety funding elimination acceptable given little to no impact on other appropriations. EFNEP and RREA funding levels acceptable. Support the administration's request.
Impact on Wisconsin: Elimination of Farm Safety funds means a $16,200 reduction to CALS Farm Safety Program. EFNEP funding is expected to drop slightly from $964,952 level. RREA funding expected to increase from $77,250 level.

Hatch Act:

FY 2008: $195,812,000
Proposed FY 2009: reduce Hatch funding to $139,208,000 and redirect $98,360,000 (70%) to a new competitively awarded multi-state grant program.
Recommendation: Oppose the proposed reduction and redirection and support a total FY 2009 level of no less than $215,000,000
Impact on Wisconsin: Last year WI received $5,259,000 and if the President's request is approved there will likely be the loss of 45-50 graduate student funded positions working on issues facing rural communities, agricultural, and natural resource related industries.

McIntire-Stennis
FY 2008: $24,791,000
Proposed FY 2009 – reduce funding level to $19,463,000 and redirect $12,972,000 into a new competitively awarded multi-state grant program.
Recommendation: Oppose the proposed reduction and redirection and support a total FY 2009 level of no less than $30,008,000 (FY 2007 level)
Impact on Wisconsin: potential loss of $575,000

National Research Initiative
FY 2008: $190,883,000
Proposed FY 2009: $256,500,000 (includes transfer of Sec. 406 Integrated Activities to NRI for administration and management)
Recommendation: Support the administrations request
Impact on Wisconsin: $3,896,677

Animal Health Disease Program
FY 2008: $4,971,000
Proposed FY 2009: elimination and zeroing out of program
Recommendation: Oppose administration's request to eliminate the program. Support a FY 2009 funding level of no less than $4,971,000
Impact on Wisconsin: $123,000

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: U. S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division, Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center (UMESC)

AGENCY: U. S. Department of Interior

DESCRIPTION: The USGS is the primary science agency in the Department of Interior and, therefore is the primary agency responsible for research within the Department. Since 2000, funding for research in the Department of Interior has barely kept pace or lost ground with inflation and, consequently, is approximately 25% below funding levels of the previous decade. The Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center (UMESC) conducts research on ecological concerns of the upper Mississippi River and surrounding region and also administers the Long Term Resource Monitoring Program (LTRMP) of the Environmental Management Program.

CONTACT: Mark Sandheinrich, River Studies Center, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 608-78-8261

NOTES: Increase funding for R&D and for LTRMP

IMPACT: *BENEFIT TO WISCONSIN:* A healthy natural environment is essential to the tourism industry and economy of Wisconsin. For example, the economic impact of fishing in Wisconsin is more than $2 billion annually. Research by UMESC and the LTRMP on ecological issues is vital to the economic interests of the State. In addition to more than 100 federal employees, UMESC also employs approximately 100 state and university staff within the region. Research training to undergraduate and graduate students through these funds has certainly added many better prepared and scientifically trained individuals to the workforce in Wisconsin.

BENEFIT TO UW SYSTEM INSTITUTIONS: Since, 1995, UMESC has provided a total of more than $9 million in support to the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse through an interagency Cooperative Education Agreement (CEA). These funds have supported research associates, technicians, and students to further the mission of UMESC and the CEA. The CEA has enhanced the educational mission of the institution by providing research training opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students, especially to those from under-represented groups.

KEY FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND NAME: USDA Challenge Grants

AGENCY: Department of Agriculture; Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service

DESCRIPTION: The Higher Education Challenge Grants program is designed to increase the number and quality of undergraduates earning degrees in agriculture and agriculture-related fields. The program encourages innovative proposals with a potential for national impact that can serve as models for other institutions in curriculum design and materials development, faculty preparation and enhancement for teaching, instructional delivery systems, and student experiential learning.

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NOTES: This program has supported a wide variety of undergraduate curricular, faculty development, and experiential learning programs at UW-River Falls. Since 1989, UW-RF has received 16 grants through this program for a total of more than $1.85 million. These grants have been extremely important to the university's agriculture and biology programs. Faculty and staff have used them to create new and innovative courses, provide field experiences to students and faculty, and develop new teaching techniques. Without these grants, few of these projects would have been feasible.

Today, the Higher Education Challenge Grant program does not fund significant purchases of equipment. Easing that restriction is recommended; USDA should follow the example of NSF's Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement program, which allows grantees to purchase large pieces of equipment that are crucial to and integrated into undergraduate curricula.

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN: This program has funded projects like:

- *Electronic Distance Delivery of Agriculture Courses*: creating the technical capability to teach agriculture courses over the Internet to students at La Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College.
- *Teaching at a Distance: Training Faculty for Interactive TV*: preparing faculty at four UW institutions to teach online courses.
- *Teaching Improvement through Faculty Externships*: placing faculty with agri-businesses during the summer.
- *Laboratory Materials and Multimedia Resources for Plant Pathology Education*: preparing digital materials for plant pathology courses and laboratories.
- *Experiential Learning Across the Disciplines*: creating an interdisciplinary course in which students address and solve complex, real-world agriculture problems.
- *Infusion of Business Content into the Horticulture Curriculum*: creating and disseminating the Horticulture Business Simulator, a computer program based on the business decisions made by greenhouses and seed producers.
- *Creating a Student-Centered Ag Engineering Tech Curriculum*: providing experiential learning opportunities throughout the agriculture engineering major.

- *UWRF Research Internship Program*: placing undergraduates into summer research internships at businesses and research laboratories across the country.
- *From Pig to Plate: Creating a Model for Value-Added Agriculture Education*: implementing a market-driven, student-operated pork enterprise on the lab farm.
- *Infusion of Legal Content into the Existing College Curriculum*: providing agriculture instructors with materials and consultants to enable them to address course-related legal issues.
- *Service-Learning Network—Integrating Service Learning in Wisconsin Colleges of Agriculture, Life Science, and Natural Resources*: helping UW-River Falls, UW-Platteville, and UW-Stevens Point infuse service learning into agriculture and ag-related programs.
- *Sustainable Agriculture in Western Wisconsin*: helping UW-River Falls create a major in Sustainable Agriculture; Chippewa Valley Technical Institute create a sustainable horticulture program; and the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service and UWRF provide outreach services for organic farmers and sustainable agriculture programs throughout Western Wisconsin and Eastern Minnesota.

Benefit to Wisconsin. USDA Challenge grants have significantly improved agriculture and ag-related courses, teaching, and co-curricular programs. As a result, UW-RF graduates are better prepared to serve Wisconsin as county extension agents, production farmers, farm credit providers, and agri-business persons. Most importantly, these grants have helped improve the education provided to Wisconsin's agriculture teachers in high schools, virtually all of whom are graduates of UW-River Falls.

Benefit to UW System institutions. Most of the curricular improvements funded by this program have been integrated into UW-River Falls' agriculture programs, and the faculty development activities continue to pay dividends in our classrooms and laboratories. The net result: 1,200 agriculture students now have opportunities for distance-education classes, research internships, service learning, field experience, and sustainable agriculture courses and programs—opportunities that were not available before receiving these Challenge grants. And more than 40 faculty in the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences now have access to externships, training in new teaching techniques, and new content through these grants.

Furthermore, the distance-education initiatives UW-RF has launched, thanks to Challenge grants, have benefited students at UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, UW-Stevens Point, and La Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College.