



April 1, 2008

Christine Clements, Dean
College of Business and Economics
University of Wisconsin – Whitewater

Christine,

As one of the nation's leading insurance and financial security organizations, Northwestern Mutual operates in an industry increasingly dependent on information technology. As such, our growth and success depends heavily on the health of the local IT and business community.

For many years, UW-Whitewater has been an excellent source of talented IT and business recruits for Northwestern Mutual. As such, the institution has played a significant role in supporting our continued growth.

Unfortunately, in some instances our own growth has outstripped some of our local talent pools. As fewer students choose IT as a career, and college programs shrink, recruiting talented IT individuals has become increasingly challenging, forcing us to go beyond our own state borders to meet our needs.

As a Wisconsin-based company for 150 years, we have a vested interest in the health of the local IT and business community. Because UW-Whitewater is one of the major contributors of IT and business professionals, whatever can be done to strengthen its ability to do so would be mutually beneficial to us, the school, its graduates and the community.

We therefore support UW-Whitewater's growth agenda – particularly for the College of Business and Economics – in attracting more students, maintaining its quality business and IT programs, and preparing its graduates for successful careers.

As we at Northwestern Mutual continue to grow, we look forward to the continued growth of UW-Whitewater and our ongoing partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick McComb".

Dick McComb
Director – HR
Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company