



# GROWTH AGENDA FOR WISCONSIN

*Access • Affordability • Growth*

## UW-Parkside: Foundation for Success

UW-Parkside is a campus of opportunity within the UW System, providing access to large numbers of first-generation college students, students of color, and adult students; and giving students with limited prospects to earn bachelor's degrees the chance to succeed at college.

### What is Foundation for Success?

Given its access mission, UW-Parkside serves a disproportionate percentage of students who graduated in the bottom half of their high school classes and who are at high-risk of failing to complete a bachelor's degree. These students face significant challenges in college. "Foundation for Success" will address these challenges. While most of the funding is ongoing, there is also a need for one-time dollars to initiate the staffing process and to create a Student Success Center.

### What are the benefits of Foundation for Success?

On a campus which is the UW System's most ethnically diverse, on which 85% of students commute, over 20% are non-traditional, the majority are first-generation college students, and 40% are from the lowest two income quintiles in the state, there is a need for a comprehensive, coordinated and seamless infrastructure to foster student success and increase retention and graduation rates. This request proposes a number of programs to provide assistance to students and faculty/staff, such as: improved diagnostic procedures and tools to determine students' needs and deficiencies; expanded, more comprehensive advising, especially to high-risk and transitional students; learning communities to build academic skills, learning assistance and first-year seminars; faculty/staff/peer mentoring programs specifically developed to help address the needs of high-risk students; improved orientation programs specifically for transfer and transitioning students; and improved campus-wide communication and access to information for all students. It is anticipated that these initiatives will increase retention, improve performance, reduce credits to degree, and raise graduation rates. As a result, the campus anticipates an increase of between 67 and 127 additional graduates per year.

### What would Foundation for Success mean for Wisconsin?

The region served by UW-Parkside, particularly Racine and Kenosha Counties, needs workers with higher-level skills and training. This region lags behind many parts of the state in the percentage of its population age 25 years and older with a baccalaureate or higher degree. Because 85% of its graduates remain in the area, an increase in the number of UW-Parkside's graduates will have a direct effect on the educational level of the local community. In addition, as the state grows, there will be increasing demand for professionals, executives, and community leaders from diverse backgrounds. UW-Parkside has the potential to prepare just such a diverse student body for employment and service in the state.

**Estimated ongoing cost:** \$1.2 million (\$817,800 GPR / \$440,000 Fees)

**For more information:** Contact Chancellor Jack Keating, 262-595-2211