

**SUMMIT WELCOME
RECEPTION
OCTOBER 14, 2002
WELCOME
Jay L. Smith, Summit Co-chair**

Good afternoon.

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the third statewide Wisconsin Economic Summit.

I think we are off to a very strong start, judging by the turnout and the excellent workshops we've had this afternoon. I want to thank our presenters for helping to kick off this year's summit and I want to thank you for taking the time to participate in this very important gathering. I'd also like to thank this year's summit sponsors:

- Alliant Energy
- Department of Workforce Development
- Madison Gas & Electric
- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
- WE Energies
- Wisconsin Public Service Corporation
- Xcel Energy
- Baylake Bank, and the
- Widget Source

Our theme this year is "Taking Steps to Move Wisconsin Forward." There is a lot of energy surrounding the subject of economic development. Over the next few days, we will see that a lot is happening – at the local, regional and state levels. We have some momentum and we want to keep it going with this summit. I think the program we have in store for you is our strongest yet.

Now, I'd like to introduce my summit co-chair, Katharine Lyall, the President of the University of Wisconsin System. She has been a driving force behind these summits and she has focused the 26 campuses of the University of Wisconsin System on the very important task of building our state's economy.

She is a great colleague and an outstanding leader. Katharine, thank you for your role in organizing and hosting this summit. Katharine...

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Katharine C. Lyall, Summit Co-chair**

Thank you, Jay.

Let me add my thanks to all of you for participating in this year's summit. As we all know, the state is going through some tough economic times. When we convened the first summit in Milwaukee almost two years ago, we did anticipate the need to move Wisconsin's economy forward and to make our state competitive in the 21st summit. At the same time, we did not anticipate the state's current economic problems.

I look forward to learning more over the next several days about the economic outlook for the state and nation and about some creative solutions to the state's current fiscal crisis.

Tonight we are pleased to welcome our Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker. Scott served in the state legislature eight years before being elected County Executive this Spring. He won on a platform of change, government reform, and reduced spending. He recently created a new Economic Development Task Force to help grow better paying jobs in Milwaukee County. Thank you Executive Walker for welcoming us to Milwaukee and sharing the steps you are taking to move Wisconsin forward.

County Executive Walker...

SUMMIT WELCOME
General Session
October 15, 2002
Guy Gottschalk, President
UW System Board of Regents

On behalf of the UW Board of Regents and the University of Wisconsin System, I am delighted to welcome you here this morning.

As a businessman, I am eager to hear the exciting presentations that are planned for the next two days. Progress in economic development is important to the state and to many Wisconsin industry “clusters,” including my own which is agriculture.

It is also important work for the University of Wisconsin. Our Regents, President Lyall and the Chancellors of our 15 UW institutions have made this a very high priority. Over the past two years, we have not only organized and supported these statewide summits, we have put together and funded an economic stimulus package for Wisconsin that is training an additional 1200 graduates for new economy jobs.

In every arena – community, county, regional and statewide – our faculty, staff, students, UW Extension personnel and campus administrators – are working to improve the state’s economic condition. One important way in which we do this is by graduating some 25,000 students annually, most of whom stay and work in Wisconsin. We also support research and public policy work that is helping Wisconsin’s businesses and government leaders every day.

In a few moments, our summit co-chair will give us our charge. I want to thank Jay Smith and Katharine Lyall for their leadership in spearheading these annual economic summits. They have been very productive. I also want to thank our sponsors for this year’s summit: Alliant Energy, the Department of Workforce Development, Madison Gas & Electric Company, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, WE Energies, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, Xcel Energy, Baylake Bank, and the Widget Source.

We look forward to an exciting few days together and I am confident that we will all come away from this summit with a renewed commitment to grow Wisconsin’s economy.

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