

## **University of Wisconsin-Green Bay**

### **Research Initiatives**

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay is a comprehensive public institution with an enrollment of approximately 6,800 students, exceptional academic facilities and affordable, high-quality programs. Founded in 1965 and a member institution of the tradition-rich University of Wisconsin System, UW-Green Bay boasts more than 30,000 alumni. Graduates live and work worldwide, but many remain in Northeast Wisconsin to serve as the region's teachers, health care professionals, business people, planners and civic leaders.

### **Partnerships with Federal Agencies**

**Cofrin Center for Biodiversity**: UW-Green Bay's Center for Biodiversity is housed within Natural and Applied Sciences, the academic division responsible for the University's nationally regarded programs in environmental science.

The Cofrin Center for Biodiversity has significant, long-term collaborations with the University of Minnesota-Duluth, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service, and has more recently received research funding through the Smithsonian Institution.

The Cofrin Center for Biodiversity enhances educational programs at UW-Green Bay by providing hands-on resources for undergraduate and graduate courses, by establishing student internship opportunities, and by attracting visiting scientists and speakers. Natural sciences research is promoted by a donor-funded student grants program, and facilitated by quality research facilities and staff support. The Center embraces its mission of serving as a regional clearinghouse of information resources for professional ideologists, naturalists, educators, and local private enterprises. Collectively, these activities contribute to quality of life in the western Great Lakes region and help strengthen the connection between UW-Green Bay and the people of this area.

One prominent initiative associated with the Center is the Lower Fox River Watershed Management Program that offers unique hands-on research opportunities for high-school students. The students monitor water quality in tributaries to the Fox River and bay of Green

Bay, adding to the scientific community's knowledge of non-point pollution throughout the basin.

**NEW Partnership for Children & Families** Vision: Create a comprehensive system of child welfare professional development, in order to achieve positive outcomes in the lives of children and families. Mission: Collaboratively develop and deliver a comprehensive, competency-based training system for public child welfare professionals. Objectives of the Partnership: On an annual basis, the NEW Partnership for Children and Families seeks to accomplish the following training related activities:

- A. Provide competency-based training for child welfare staff that is dynamic and responsive to new developments and changes in child welfare research, policy and practice from a national, state and local perspective. We seek to accomplish this by:
- B. Evaluate all training offered in order to assess program goals and analyze the impact of training on child welfare practice in NEW Partnership.
- C. Ensure efficient and effective administration of NEW Partnership. We seek to accomplish this by:
- D. Support the development of the Intertribal Child Welfare Training Partnership by providing ongoing supervisor, staff and fiscal related support to the Intertribal Child Welfare Training Partnership.

**Center for First Nations Studies** The Center is an Act 31 resource dedicated to improving and supporting First Nations (American Indian) education and teacher education programs. Our goal is to help educators do a more comprehensive job of teaching youth about the history, culture, sovereignty, and contemporary status of First Nations in Wisconsin.

**Member, Great Lakes Maritime Research Initiative:** UW-Green Bay is a member of the Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute which provides interdisciplinary opportunities for cooperative federally-funded research involving inter-modal transportation of goods.

**Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium:** UW-Green Bay is home base for the state of Wisconsin's participation in NASA's National Space Grant Consortium. Federal funds support

the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium on the UW-Green Bay campus. The statewide consortium includes both public and private universities and private businesses. Additional federal funds received by the WSGC are then disseminated competitively to schools of higher education, as well as middle and secondary schools for projects and initiatives that promote interest in math, science and aerospace careers. In addition to research and programming, student scholarships also command an important share of the WSGC budget.

**Social Work and Child-Welfare Education:** Support from the Department of Health and Human Services, in addition to the Department of Children and Families, makes it possible for UW-Green Bay to offer specialized training in social work and child-welfare issues. UW-Green Bay offers both bachelor's and master's programs (the master's is in cooperation with UW-Oshkosh) with emphases on child-welfare training.

Also based on campus and the beneficiary of federal support (Title IV-E) is the Northeastern Wisconsin Partnership for Children and Families, which focuses on providing additional training to current practitioners, especially in areas related to child-welfare and also tribal law and social work. Child protective services workers, juvenile justice workers, adoption workers, contract human services staff, supervisors, managers, and foster parents gain additional knowledge.

**TRIO Programs:** Upward Bound and RCMS: UW-Green Bay has gained recognition over the years for the quality of its Federal TRIO offerings, especially in Upward Bound and RCMS.

In Fall 2012, the University received word that the U.S. Department of Education had renewed funding for UW-Green Bay's Upward Bound program through 2017. The program was to receive \$31,054 for the 2012-13 academic year and roughly \$1.6 million for the five-year period. The renewed funding allows the program to annually serve 77 first-generation, low-income disadvantaged students at Green Bay East, West and Preble high schools. It was especially good news that the new grant provided an increase in funds to expand the program and serve an additional 12 students a year.

The second TRIO program – the Regional Center for Math and Science – was also re-funded. The funding for the math/science focused program is approved through 2018. The RCMS funding involves \$308,858 for the 2012-13 academic year and roughly \$1.85 million for the six-year period through 2018. The renewal funding for this program was also increased to allow the

program to annually serve 75 first-generation, low-income disadvantaged students from across the Upper Midwest, an increase of 10 students over last year's participation.

UW-Green Bay has a long and proud history of helping underrepresented students from disadvantaged backgrounds prepare for, gain admission to, and succeed in higher education. The Upward Bound program has been continually funded for 22 years, and the Regional Center for Mathematics and Science has been funded for 20 years. Over two decades, the federal TRIO programs in place at UW-Green Bay have helped hundreds of high school students realize their goals of successfully pursuing a postsecondary education. Tutoring, advising, college visits, cultural events and six-week summer residential experiences on campus are among the services provided.

Many low-income families live in the target area. About 55 percent of the Green Bay Area Public School District students come from a low-income home.

### ***CENTERS AND INSTITUTES***

#### **Environment and Management Business Institute**

The **Environmental Management and Business Institute** (EMBI) was established in August 2008, and helps strengthen the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay's leadership position in the promotion of environmental awareness and eco-friendly initiatives. A primary mission of the EMBI is to host an annual conference that joins the University, local businesses and community leaders to work toward the realization of a sustainable future. The annual conference is called Green Innovations, and features international experts and local panelists who can provide insight on important topics such as sustainability in transportation, wind energy, regional health, regional sustainability and water management. The establishment of the EMBI is a step in the evolution of UW-Green Bay's historic mission of studying environmental issues and developing solutions to problems; solutions that recognize the critical interconnections between science, policy and business, and the social contexts within which they occur. UW-Green Bay earned early recognition and national acclaim by *Harper's Magazine* and other national venues as "Eco U" much because of its multidisciplinary approach to solving problems, including those of the environmental nature. The EMBI complements the University's solid reputation as a campus that impressed sustainable practices on campus and in its community long before "green" became trendy.

The EMBI will strive to work with public- and private-sector partners throughout the New North region to make the region synonymous with sustainability and environmental leadership. Helping businesses develop opportunities to reduce their environmental impact while increasing profitability is good for business. Today's public view has evolved to where "good business" is not only profitable, but is also recognized for good stewardship of the environment.

Small Business Development Center:

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at UW-Green Bay is part of a statewide network of SBDCs working with business owners and entrepreneurs to facilitate business growth and improvement, and to launch successful new companies. Through no-cost consulting, low-cost entrepreneurial education, and strategic facilitation, SBDC experts serve as resources for small and emerging mid-size companies. The Wisconsin SBDC is hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Extension and is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The Center for Food in Community & Culture at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay facilitates interdisciplinary scholarship to enhance the synergy between sustainable food systems and a sound environment, healthy people, and equitable communities, locally and globally.

Center for History and Social Change promotes historical study, thought and discourse at the University of Wisconsin -- Green Bay and in the wider regional community through organizing and sponsoring lectures, seminars, and other events on campus conducted by outstanding visiting historical scholars in the humanities and social sciences.

Hmong Studies Center was chartered in 2007. It is charged with developing and facilitating courses in Hmong Studies, supporting student and faculty research, and organizing on-campus events including a lecture series that will focus on Hmong life and culture and feature leading scholars and professionals. Look for additional information to be added during the year.

Center for Public Affairs The Center for Public Affairs enhances civic engagement and quality of life in the community by: Conducting applied and scholarly research and technical assistance; Providing students opportunities for internships, service learning, honors research, and civic

engagement; Sponsoring educational programs to share information and dialog about civic issues; Providing a mechanism for collaboration between community organizations and citizens.

Institute for Learning Partnership Created the Accomplished Educator Professional Development Certificate (PDC) program for experienced educators. Based on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) and Wisconsin's state standards, the PDC is approved by Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for teacher re-licensure and endorsed by WEAC's Professional Development Academy. First cohort group: 1999; First graduates: 2000). Transformed UW-Green Bay's undergraduate teacher preparation program to a standards-based program for students preparing for the teaching profession. (Ongoing) Established a standards-based Master of Science Degree in Applied Leadership for Teaching and Learning, based on the NBPTS standards, at the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay. (First cohort group: 1998; First graduates: 2000) Funded school-based action research through a competitive grant program that documents effective practices to improve teaching and learning. (First Awards: 1998). Partners include the districts of northeast Wisconsin's Cooperative Educational Services Agencies (CESA), regional school boards, PK-12 educators and administrators, Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC), Professional Development Academy of WEAC, northeast Wisconsin's technical colleges, business and community leaders and the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay.