



2023 ALLIANT ENERGY FOUNDATION AWARD CEREMONY

Alliant Energy Erroll B. Davis, Jr.
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Alliant Energy James R. Underkofler
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

Thursday, October 26, 2023
Pyle Center, Alumni Lounge, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.
702 Langdon St, Madison, Wisconsin



Program Highlights

Ceremony 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. | Award Presentation 2:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Andy Kitslaar, Senior Community Affairs Program Manager,
Alliant Energy Foundation

WELCOME

Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,
UW System

ERROLL B. DAVIS, JR. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

AWARD HISTORY

Benjamin Bilitz, Chief Accounting Officer and Controller, Alliant Energy

AWARD PRESENTATION WITH REMARKS BY RECIPIENTS

Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,
UW System

STUDENT RECIPIENTS

Olivia Asare, Business Administration, UW-Madison

Favour Butterfield, Engineering, UW-Platteville

Marcelo Garay, Business Administration, UW-Platteville

Naomi Lewis, Engineering, UW-Madison

JAMES R. UNDERKOFLEK EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

AWARD HISTORY

Benjamin Bilitz, Chief Accounting Officer and Controller, Alliant Energy

AWARD PRESENTATION WITH REMARKS BY RECIPIENTS

Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,
UW System

FACULTY RECIPIENTS

Kristy Burkholder, Ph.D., Teaching Professor, Human Development and
Family Studies, UW-Madison

Gail K. Hoffman, M.S., Professor, Department of Health and Human
Performance, UW-Platteville

Howard Schweber, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Political Science,
UW-Madison

ERROLL B. DAVIS, JR. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

In 2006, the Alliant Energy Foundation established an endowed fund, the Alliant Energy Erroll B. Davis, Jr. Achievement Awards. These awards annually honor outstanding scholarship and community service of undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented minority groups pursuing a degree in Business or Engineering at UW-Madison or UW-Platteville. The awards are presented annually to up to four students who are selected by their home institutions during the spring semester of their junior year. The students receive the award upon graduation.

Alliant Energy established these awards to recognize and honor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., former CEO of the Alliant Corporation. Mr. Davis was the first African American to head a “Business Week 1000” company. He was also named one of the “50 Most Powerful Black Executives in America” by Fortune magazine in 2002.

From 1987 to 1994, Mr. Davis served as a member of the Board of Regents for the University of Wisconsin System.

JAMES R. UNDERKOFLEER EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

In 1990, the Wisconsin Power and Light Foundation (Alliant Energy’s Wisconsin Utility) established an endowed fund, the Alliant Energy James R. Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards. These awards honor outstanding faculty and academic staff whose dedication to teaching and ability to inspire students exemplify the best values of the University of Wisconsin (UW) System. The awards are presented annually to up to four recipients who teach at UW System institutions within the company’s service area. Candidates are selected by their home institutions.

These awards were established to recognize and honor James R. Underkofler (1923–2015), who served Wisconsin Power and Light for more than 48 years, retiring as CEO and Chairman of the Board in 1990.

Mr. Underkofler was a staunch supporter of teaching excellence and believed in the importance of connecting public and private educational systems to enhance learning and motivate young minds. The James R. Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards reflect Alliant Energy’s strong historical dedication to education and support UW System’s longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and providing high-quality education to people from throughout Wisconsin and the world.

2023

Alliant Energy
Erroll B. Davis, Jr.
Achievement Awards

RECIPIENT BIOGRAPHIES



OLIVIA ASARE

Olivia Asare plans to graduate in May 2024 from UW-Madison with a Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in Supply Chain Management, Operations and Technology Management, and Marketing. A Chancellor Scholar, Olivia has immersed herself in leadership roles on campus. She serves as a peer mentor in the Chancellor's scholarship program, where she supports the leadership development of underclassmen in the program. As president of the Diverse Leaders of

Tomorrow, Olivia leads a group of students in creating skill development programming. She facilitates meetings, manages projects, and conducts outreach. Olivia also supports students as a Housefellow, a leadership position in campus dormitories. Olivia's ability to problem-solve while maintaining focus on personal connection makes her a dedicated and effective leader among her peers.

Olivia is an intern for the Boys and Girls Club of Fox Valley. She has also interned with British Petroleum, served as a campus ambassador with GVBACK, and worked as a Youth Advocacy Consultant with Terraluna Collaborative. In addition, she earned 1st place at the P&G (Procter & Gamble) case study competition in 2021.

In each role, Olivia applies what she has learned as a student while gaining experiences to bolster her professional development. She looks forward to a career in consulting, focusing on sustainability or social impact.



FAVOUR BUTTERFIELD

Favour Butterfield plans to graduate in May 2024 from UW-Platteville with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Originally from Nigeria, Favour moved to the United States with her parents when she was 13 years old. After graduating from high school, she earned a certificate in industrial maintenance as well as associate degrees in electro-mechanical technology and automation engineering from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

At UW-Platteville, Favour is a member of the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science Undergraduate Research Program, where she works with recycled materials and is creating a system to reuse plastic. As a Women in STEM Program Student Assistant, she participates in outreach programs for girls in fifth through twelfth grades and assists women in STEM majors navigate college. Her volunteer and leadership experiences include founding and serving as president of the National Society of Black Engineers club on campus, participating in the International Club and Society of Women Engineers, and serving on the Student Senate. She also spoke at UW-Platteville's Sesquicentennial Hall Grand opening and participated in a promotional video for the school virtual tour.

Favour has held various positions with EMT International in Hobart, Wis., including serving as a mechanical engineering intern and electro-mechanical assembler intern, as well as participating in a mechanical engineering design co-op.



MARCELO GARAY

Marcelo Garay plans to graduate in May 2024 from UW-Platteville with a Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in Finance. Marcelo knew from an early age that he wanted to work in a field involving financial data. His career goal is to become a financial analyst and use his skills to help businesses and individuals achieve their financial goals.

At UW-Platteville, Marcelo has taken investment classes and corporate finance courses, which have given him a comprehensive understanding of financial analysis, valuation, and risk management. He also participates in finance-related extracurricular activities, such as the Accounting and Finance Club and a student-run investment fund, which provide hands-on experience in financial analysis and portfolio management. Marcelo is a member of the UW-Platteville Men's Varsity Soccer Team, developing skills in leadership, teamwork, and discipline.

In addition to being a student-athlete, Marcelo is a member of the Society of Human Resource Management and volunteers at local community events and fundraisers to help support those in need. In the summer, he leads a landscaping crew for a local company near Milwaukee, Wis.

Marcelo looks forward to a career in finance and financial analysis that draws on his academic and extracurricular experiences.



NAOMI LEWIS

Naomi Lewis plans to graduate in December 2023 from UW-Madison with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering, with an emphasis in supply chain management and human factoring.

As president of the UW-Madison chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), Naomi helps other Black engineering students excel academically and professionally. Elected to serve a second term as NSBE president, Naomi is a positive leader, role model, and mentor to her peers. Her ability to think strategically and build relationships have contributed to the success of NSBE. For example, Naomi worked with engineering companies to secure over \$15,000 and developed the NSBE student support fund to help other students purchase course material and supplies.

Naomi has served on the Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity in Engineering Student Advisory Council to enhance the student experience. She has worked with campus leadership to advocate for the needs of engineering students, helping develop outreach and recruitment programs that seek to broaden participation among students historically underrepresented in engineering. Naomi has also served as a College of Engineering Student Ambassador providing presentations and tours to prospective engineering students.

Naomi wishes to use her knowledge of industrial engineering together with her passion for efficiency to improve people's lives.

2023

Alliant Energy
James R. Underkofler
Excellence in Teaching
Awards

RECIPIENT BIOGRAPHIES



KRISTY BURKHOLDER

Dr. Kristy Burkholder is a teaching professor in the Human Development and Family Studies department within the School of Human Ecology at UW-Madison. She earned her Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies and her Master of Science in Educational Psychology, both from UW-Madison, and her Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science from the University of Chicago.

Dr. Burkholder, who has taught at UW-Madison since 1999, seeks to create valuable educational experiences for her students through emotional connection and building community. In addition to helping students succeed academically, she is passionate about helping students discover their values, talents, and purpose in life with the goal of improving their well-being and the well-being of others.

Most of her students in Family Studies and Human Development are preparing for professional careers in which empathy, listening, and effective communication are essential, both to deliver effective services and to prevent burnout in emotionally draining professions.

Dr. Burkholder advocates establishing “curriculums of consequence,” focusing on creating an integrated education that fosters effective strategies for solving persistent social challenges. She uses evidence-based strategies from proven modalities like psychoeducation, which builds knowledge and problem-solving skills in the context of compassionate, supportive environments. Her strategies and objectives for supporting student learning are based on her knowledge of effective teaching practices and her understanding of human ecological theory, systems theory, and design thinking.



GAIL K. HOFFMAN

Gail K. Hoffman has been a professor in the Department of Health and Human Performance at UW-Platteville Richland since 2018 and has worked at the campus since 2000, serving several years as UW Colleges' department chair of Health, Exercise Science, and Athletics. She earned her Master of Science from UW-La Crosse and her Bachelor of Physical Education from Purdue University.

Prof. Hoffman began her career as a National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) coach who led and assisted Division I, II, and III teams to top 25 national rankings. When she transitioned to a general education instructor, her goal was to make lasting impacts developing students through Dweck's mindset theory, encouraging growth (versus fixed) mindsets. Prof. Hoffman describes her life as a constant journey toward growth for her students and herself and feels a sense of pride when her former students achieve success.

Recently, Prof. Hoffman has taught seven new classes focusing on social sciences, recreation, athletics, health and wellness, and students' first-year experience. In all, she has taught more than 25 different courses within the UW System, including the university's first sport law course (HHP 3050). She was the first department member to teach distance education courses to all three UW-Platteville campuses and co-designed the department's first online courses. She has been at the forefront of the distance education movement, having taught courses in every distance education mode available.

Prof. Hoffman's teaching includes high-impact practices such as small-group collaborative projects. For example, in Introduction to Sport Law, students are required to collaborate with a community business and create an emergency action plan for medical injuries, terrorist attacks, and natural disasters. This service-learning project requires community interaction and direct field-based experience to demonstrate student level of understanding. Prof. Hoffman is admired by students and colleagues alike for her positive demeanor, energetic personality, and contagious enthusiasm for both fun and learning.



HOWARD SCHWEBER

Dr. Howard Schweber has been a professor in the Department of Political Science at UW-Madison since 1999. He is also an affiliate faculty member for the Law School, Legal Studies, Integrated Liberal Studies, and the Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education. He earned his Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University; his M.A. in History from the University of Chicago; his J.D. from the University of Washington Law School; and his B.A.

from the University of Pennsylvania. His current areas of research include comparative constitutionalism and democratic theories of representation.

Dr. Schweber's goal in teaching, whether he is teaching a large lecture course or small seminar class, is to meet students where they are, then take them somewhere new. In delivering lectures, he has observed how much discussion and participation matter even in that larger context. Over his career, he has learned about the need to create and maintain an environment that is welcoming to a wide variety of students with different identities, ideologies, and backgrounds. He works to engage all students, from the most outgoing to the most reticent. Above all, he has learned that good teaching is based on self-reflection, openness to innovation, and constant improvement. During COVID-19, he redesigned his lecture courses in the form of short mini-lectures presented online and asynchronously.

His teaching awards include the 2018 Excellence in Service Award from the Institute of International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund. Dr. Schweber is a regular guest on Wisconsin television and radio programs and gives frequent interviews in the local, national, and international press. He is a frequent public speaker both on and off campus. Dr. Schweber serves as the faculty advisor and coach for the UW College Mock Trial Team, the UW College Moot Court Team, and the "Sifting and Winnowing," Wisconsin's undergraduate politics and law journal. He is a Leon Epstein Faculty Research Fellow and the founding editor of *Constitutional Studies*.