COVER PAGE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM
2012-13 Growth Agenda for Wisconsin Grants Program

Please include a signed cover page with your electronically submitted proposal.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION:</th>
<th>UW-Eau Claire</th>
<th>AMOUNT REQUESTED:</th>
<th>$476,072</th>
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Institutional Approval: UW-Eau Claire

Provost/Vice Chancellor: 2/20/12

Karen Hashem
Grants Officer

Electronic submission of proposals should be sent to: bjokisch@uwsa.edu

cover.doc
**INSTITUTION:** UW-Eau Claire

**AMOUNT REQUESTED:** $476,072

**PROJECT TITLE:** Educational Opportunity Network for Rural Access to College – UWEC Pilot Project

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Joan Sosalla

**TITLE:** Outreach Program Manager

**DEPARTMENT:** Educational Opportunity Center/Continuing Education

**PHONE:** 715-836-5051

**FAX:** 715-836-3963

**E-MAIL:** sosallaj@uwec.edu

**ADDRESS:**

105 Garfield Ave.

Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

**OTHER INVESTIGATORS:** (Names, Titles, Affiliations)

Tom Gospodarczyk, Executive Director of Continuing Education, UW-Stevens Point

**ONE-SENTENCE PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Educational Opportunity Network (EON) Pilot Project will develop a collaborative recruitment model for the Continuing Education units and Admissions offices in 7 UW Campuses in rural Wisconsin: UW Colleges-Barron County, Marshfield/Wood County and UW Marathon/Marathon County, UW Eau Claire, UW Stevens Point, UW Stout, and UW Superior.

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Institutional Approval: UW-Stevens Point

Provost/Vice Chancellor

Grants Officer

**Electronic submission of proposals should be sent to:** bjokisch@uwsa.edu

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INSTITUTION: UW-Stout

AMOUNT REQUESTED: $476,072 (for two years) (no money coming to Stout, total to Eau Claire)

PROJECT TITLE: Educational Opportunity Network for Rural Access to college-UWEC Pilot Project

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Pamela Holsinger-Fuchs, PhD

TITLE: Executive Director of Enrollment Services

DEPARTMENT: Academic and Student Life Services

ADDRESS:
PO Box 790
Menomonie, WI 54751-0790

PHONE: 715-232-2639
FAX: 715-232-1667
E-MAIL: Holsinger-fuchsp@uwstout.edu

OTHER INVESTIGATORS: (Names, Titles, Affiliations)
Chris Smith, Director for Extension and Partnership Services, UW-Stout
Joan Thomas, Dean of Students, UW-Stout
Joan Sosalla, EOC Director, UW–Eau Claire

ONE-SENTENCE PROJECT DESCRIPTION: UW-Stout will support the EON outreach efforts to provide services to rural adults wishing to pursue a college degree.

Electronic submission of proposals should be sent to: bjokisch@uwsa.edu
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Institutional Approval:  

[Signature]  

Provost/Vice Chancellor  

[Signature]  

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Institutional Approval:  ___ UW Colleges ___ Institution:  ___ Provost/Vice Chancellor ___

Grants Officer
Abstract: The UWEC Educational Opportunity Network (EON) Pilot Project will develop a collaborative recruitment model for the Continuing Education units and Admissions offices in 7 UW Campuses in rural Wisconsin – UW Colleges – Barron County, Marshfield/Wood County and UW Marathon County, UW Eau Claire, UW Stevens Point, UW Stout, and UW Superior. This EON collaborative will partner with external community agencies, organizations and businesses in 14 rural Wisconsin counties to prepare and guide 2,400 rural non-traditional students over individual customized timeframes to successfully access college. This adaptation of the existing successful Educational Opportunity Center (the only rural postsecondary access model in Wisconsin) has not previously been developed for UW Campuses, but will create a transformational change in how UWs collaboratively recruit and assist non-traditional rural adults for access to postsecondary education. The increase in adults in postsecondary education will result in providing more individuals to assist in building stronger communities in rural areas.

In each year of the two-year pilot 30% of the adults in process will enroll in a postsecondary school and follow their individualized plans. The personnel within the target UW Campuses will be trained in the EON model for recruiting rural adults, become more involved with UW HELP and create a plan for sustaining the EON model at each campus. This pilot will bring a connection to rural adults that has not been in place previously and set up a UW Network designed specifically to address the rural adult barriers to education and serve as a stronger connection for rural communities with the UWs. Adults will have ongoing customized assistance to find areas of study that align with interests, evolving career requirements, financial resources, how to adjust lifestyles and to successfully navigate accessing postsecondary education. A crucial part of the customization is the immersion of adults in the technology needed during each step.
Educational Opportunity Network for Rural Access to College – UWEC Pilot Project

Description of the project

UWEC will create a pilot project to expand upon UWEC’s Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), a successful program for recruiting rural adults since 1994. The Educational Opportunity Network (EON) Pilot Project will develop a collaborative recruitment model for the Continuing Education units and Admissions offices in 7 UW Campuses in rural Wisconsin – UW Colleges – Barron County, Marshfield/Wood County and UW Marathon County, UW Eau Claire, UW Stevens Point, UW Stout, and UW Superior. EON will partner with external community agencies, organization and businesses in 14 rural Wisconsin counties. This collaborative will prepare and guide 2,400 rural non-traditional students (with a focus on stop-outs as well as enrollments from an existing database of over 2,000 adults identified as seeking college). In each year 30% of the adults in process will enroll in a postsecondary school. The personnel within the target UW Campuses will become trained in the EON model for recruiting rural adults, become more involved with UW HELP and create a plan for sustaining the EON model at each campus. This pilot will bring a connection to rural adults that has not been in place previously and set up a UW Network designed specifically to address the rural adult barriers to education. Adults will have ongoing customized assistance to find interests that align with evolving career and areas of study, financial resources, how to adjust lifestyles and successfully navigate accessing postsecondary education. A crucial part of the customization is the immersion of adults in the technology needed during each step.

Secondly, this project will expand the collaborative model which guides institutions to become closely involved with rural agencies, organizations and communities (not usually involved in a close network), enlarge upon a base of more than the present 110 collaborating
agencies, organizations and businesses and train the UW personnel on how to create and sustain
this type of collaborative networking.

Third, this project will expand the geographic area covered from the present 10 counties
to 14 counties in rural Wisconsin (Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson, Eau Claire, Clark,
Dunn, Chippewa, Barron, Rusk, Sawyer, Washburn, Taylor and Price) and create a model for
initiating rural access to all rural adults interested in postsecondary education.

While UW Campuses have worked together, a collaborative with a large network of rural
agencies, organizations and businesses that offers postsecondary access assistance to rural adults
in an individualized, customized format has not yet been developed. In this approach
collaborative partnerships are actively pursued to recruit and support clients of all these agencies,
organizations and businesses who desire a college degree. The existing EOC network is a base
that can be expanded. Local agencies, organizations and businesses will actively refer
individuals to the EON because they are already accustomed to referring low income, first
generation individuals. They will be excited as this expansion has been requested often.
Personnel will go to local schools, public libraries, Head Start Centers, county jails, prisons, job
centers, social service agencies, veterans’ offices, and businesses throughout the region. In
addition, other parts of the UW that also consistently work with local rural resource (i.e.
Cooperative Extension) will be approached to determine if they would have a way to collaborate
as well. This collaboration with an intentional communication format will aid in the
sustainability of the pilot and assist in building stronger communities through their strengthening
of connections to the UWs.

During the pilot the addition of counties not served by the present EOC will provide
expanded geographic reach and more importantly provide experience for clarifying the steps in
the process on starting fresh in a new geographic area. The additional 4 counties will provide an opportunity to demonstrate the steps in initiating the collaborative model and be a good comparison for the differences between new and existing partners and for delineating steps in the growing process of a collaborative network in comparison to existing collaboration in the other counties. During the pilot EON project the model will research adaptation possible for any UW Campus interested in successfully recruiting adults living in rural areas.

EON staff will provide customized assistance by not only meeting with adults to determine interests, financial needs, and educational choices, they will also assist the adults in problem solving around other areas of their lives in order to involve education as a way of life. The EON personnel will continue contact with these adults during the entire process from inquiry and until the adult is successfully functioning in postsecondary education. Just as it takes a few years for a high school student to choose what career/education choice to pursue, it also takes time for some adults who may have many variables in their life to analyze and adjust. The EON will be guiding the adult over time. Also, adults in college will be welcomed back at any time for additional guidance as they encounter difficulties.

In most communities in the target geographic area there is little to no impartial available resource to assist in investigating even the prospect of going to school. There are geographic challenges for area residents in not only finding postsecondary schools that will have what they need, but also in getting to a resource during a time when they are available to meet. In addition, the rural adult who has never attended postsecondary education or has stopped out finds the prospect of “going on to school” confusing and overwhelming. The EON personnel are skilled at taking a wide variety of education experiences and possibilities, along with any lapses and
helping the adult figure out workable possibilities as they work with various institutions to support a plan resulting in a better future. Staff are positive about overcoming any challenges.

Technology with “hands-on” use of online communications will be infused in all the activities carried out during the process of investigation, so that by the time adults are in college, they will be better equipped, more familiar with online functioning and more trusting of communication beyond face-to-face.

**Description of need**

Adults in 14 target rural counties of the grant proposal have:

- Less education – total target population of 437,960 with 83.7% with less than a Bachelor’s degree compared to 74.5% in Wisconsin overall.
- Increased poverty level overall than Wisconsin’s average – 8.21% versus state level 7.2%
- Lower per capita income than the average in Wisconsin - $22,658 versus $26,447
- Limited assistance in accessing postsecondary education
- Lack of modeling for continual education coupled with career laddering/change
- Less access and experience with technology/internet access
- Other characteristics associated with “ruralism” that isolates individuals

The rural economy of the counties included in this project is grounded in a strong tradition of dairy farming, crop production and manufacturing in wood, rubber and food products. The culture has not historically supported the need for postsecondary education. Since the 1990’s the region experienced major economic shifts in manufacturing and dairy farming, resulting in a wide range of businesses closing down in a continual spiral. As more employment establishments close down there is a growing pool of underemployed, unemployed, discharged veterans, and dislocated workers competing for fewer and fewer low skill positions.
Additionally, none of these jobs offers a *living wage* or allows for advancement. At the same time, there are businesses moving into the area and some established businesses are expanding, but they are having difficulty finding skilled workers who can deal with technology (needed for every job). This situation is a growing dilemma for rural adults.

Adults are not as likely to improve their lifestyle and income without accomplishing additional education. However, there are few opportunities for rural adults to investigate postsecondary possibilities and access education in a manner conducive to rural culture. Often rural adults find initiating access through phone or online discovery too complicated.

Lastly, in the rural culture, there is a distrust of external resources coming in to offer assistance. Many individuals will note projects and resources that “came in, made promises and then left”. By working with existing resources who partner with local trusted, known individuals to rural residents, the EON will assist more individuals and become quickly active in creating a process of going on to school for more local adults. The EON will bring the concept of investigation into postsecondary education with the result of postsecondary enrollment to the rural adult through trusted sources who are collaborative partners. The EON collaborative can be sustained through the efforts of the CE Units of the various UW’s.

**Relationship of Growth Agenda goals with UWEC’s mission** - The Growth Agenda seeks to increase the number of graduates, help create more well-paying jobs and build stronger communities. Rural adults need education to assist them in building stronger communities, but are hampered from doing that because of the lack of access infrastructure. Growth Agenda purposes are reflected in UWEC’s mission to be an inclusive campus community that provides a rigorous, intentional and experiential undergraduate liberal education for life and livelihood and to provide educational opportunities responsive to the needs of our communities, state and
region. In addition, the various UW institutions that are part of this EON collaborative grant proposal have targeted the need to serve the non-traditional student. All involved UW Campuses’ mission statements and/or strategic plans have a priority to reach out to adults (non-traditional students). The EON Project addresses the intent of the UWs to enhance adults’ lives and careers by investing in postsecondary education to not only improve themselves, but also to take their communities forward. The mission is becoming even more critical in rural areas, yet adult access to college has been minimal. The EON will address this need. Through a collaborative effort more adults in rural areas will access postsecondary education and become more involved and better equipped to address their communities’ problem. In the long term, investment in education has impacts in communities of stronger long term planning, a wider range of solutions sought to local problems, more involvement in developing communities and a higher level of educations overall attracting businesses looking for skilled workforce.

**Plans for Sustainability**

The intent is to expand a successful rural model (the EOC is the only one of its kind in Wisconsin) that recruits and supports over 1,000 rural adults annually who seek postsecondary education via referrals through an invaluable partner network. The pilot project will not only continue to expand the number of individuals given customized assistance and refer adults to UW’s located throughout the region and beyond, it will also invite other UW’s to create a collaboration that will sustain the model over time.

UWEC is engaged with UW HELP, the Continuing Education units and the Admissions offices at UW Stout, UWS, UWSP, UW Barron County, UW Wood County and UW Marathon County to initiate an expansion of the present EOC collaborative model that will work with rural partners throughout 14 counties to recruit and support adults who seek postsecondary access to
successful enrollment in postsecondary programs. The intent is to connect more rural adults who seek postsecondary education to a UW and to support these adults until they are successfully functioning in the college they choose. UWEC is to host the personnel as they have the experience in delivering the model and in working with rural adults (The Director’s specialty is collaborative work and sustaining collaboratives and the staff have been trained and use the model). UW partner campuses will be obtaining non-traditional student enrollments, direct connection to an existing collaborative, training on how to create and sustain collaborative connections, how to implement the model and options for adaptations on how to optimize the rural collaborative model. This project will also expand an established network with the over 110 collaborators in 10 counties to all 14 counties and show how to expand this type of collaborative in any rural area of Wisconsin. This two-year project will define a rural model for recruitment and support of rural adults that will hopefully be replicated throughout the state.

**Project Timeline for Each Year**

**Year One**

1. Meet with relevant UW Campuses personnel in CE and Admissions to develop model and to create and/or expand the EON process for support of rural adults referred to each campus and complete initial planning for successful course/campus participation.

2. Expand collaborative delivery of services to 14 counties via face-to-face, phone and electronic communications.

3. Meet with 1,200 adults to create a customized plan for access.

4. Assist 30% of college ready adults (those with all credentialing needed to be accepted into a program) in successfully entering a postsecondary program.

5. Rural adults referred to UW Campuses.
Year Two

1. Create an event and follow-up for UW Campuses to initiate and sustain connection with rural collaborators and sustain referral process and feedback on rural adult access.

2. Connect EON network of community collaborators to UW HELP and UW Campuses through customized communications and contacts.

3. Meet with 1,200 adults to create a customized plan for access.

4. Assist 30% of college ready adults (those with all credentialing needed to be accepted into a program) in successfully entering a postsecondary program.

Description of Methods

Collaborating partners (UW’s and external) development and maintenance will include information on optimizing relationships with existing collaborators including Job Centers, public libraries, Head Start Centers, Social Services agencies, Community Action agencies, AODA facilities, County Jails, Veterans offices, Tribal agencies, agencies that assist farmers, selected Wisconsin prisons located in rural areas, and other service agencies for immigrants.

Collaboration stresses the need for communications and clarity. All collaborators will be part of a network that receives communications from the EON and give feedback in a continuous feedback system that will be adapted from the present EOC. The UW Campuses will be included in this process and informed on how to adapt it.

Training for sustaining and adapting the EON model for UW Campuses will include an initial presentation of model and adaptations for various locations and an investigation into each campus’ adaptation to provide adult rural access counselor network.

Formats for expanding relationship-building with similar agencies and businesses in the specified region beyond those already part of the EOC collaborative network will be part of the
learning content. Creating inclusion activities to bring UW HELP and the UW Campuses Admission offices and Continuing Education offices in closer collaboration with the various rural collaborators will be covered in a training event. The process of training will be broken into 3 strands: awareness and basics involved, ongoing assistance in collaboration-building a rural model, and trouble-shooting sessions.

*Marketing beyond the usual* - Unique to the EON Pilot Project (and one of the most important aspects for sustainability of rural adult recruitment) is that the services for adults will not only be advertised in the usual local media and through social media, they will be presented to a wide variety of local agencies, organizations and businesses through awareness workshops and individual services to any interested staff members/clients/community members.

*Workshops/individual sessions* at collaborating partner locations throughout the 14 counties will range from interest inventories and other investigation of multiple career options, financial aid including the FAFSA application process, loans, scholarships, local resources and assistance with defaulted loans and other situations. There will be comparison of postsecondary schools for chosen fields of study and planning for overcoming other potential barriers to education (i.e. transportation, child care, employment needs, internet access) and exposure to technical resources needed to take part in postsecondary learning activities (i.e. D2L or Blackboard).

*Overall Methods for assessment of outcome attainment, benchmarking of project success, effectiveness and deliverables*

Continuous Improvement Cycle (CI Cycle) already used by the EOC will be used to assess the attainment of outcomes. CI Cycle notes process and communication with collaborators and clients, a database that accumulates information on number of individuals referred, data on educational plan created for the individual (with various options), data on FAFSA and other financial
efforts/scholarships, information on enrollments in a postsecondary institution and a listing of collaborators, the feedback they provide and their referrals. The CI Cycle, the numbers accumulating through the educational plan process in the database, and the communication status with the collaborators are all monitored by a weekly meeting of the staff. Expected performance for each area is developed for the year and each week progress is checked noting expectations not met, addressed and progress reported in the following week. The EOC model has been effective in sustaining client and collaborator progress.

Lastly, Jeremy Hein, UWEC Sociology Professor will function as a once/year evaluator and will involve his Capstone seniors in reviewing intent, process and results each year. Dr. Hein’s research includes studies of refugee mutual assistance associations and he has expertise evaluating serving local minority populations. He is proficient in statistical analysis, personal interviews, and content analysis of documents.

**Impacts and Transformation Change**

1. A transformational change will occur in how the UWs collaboratively recruit and assist non-traditional rural adults for access to postsecondary education.

2. Because of the collaboration of UWs with rural agencies, organizations and businesses, local communities attain a wider resource base for addressing local issues.

3. Rural area agencies, organizations and businesses will purposefully refer adults to UW’s through a local contact for educational opportunities, not a process previously in place.

4. A recruitment model that appropriately serves rural populations will make a positive addition in stop outs returning to finish degrees and in new student enrollments.

5. A greater number of educated rural adults will result in a more skilled workforce available for developing the rural communities.
Budget Narrative

Personnel

**Academic Staff: Director** – This amount was taken from the present director’s salary of $57,000, who has a PhD. A master's degree is the minimal educational level recommended and this salary was based on that level of education.

**Program Counselor/Manager** – This amount was taken from the present counselor/manager salary of $43,000. The counselor also serves as administrative representative in the rural areas to avoid duplication of travel expenses for meetings in the rural area. The counselor may represent the EON for greater efficiency measures in various rural areas.

**Classified Staff: Program Associate** – This amount was taken from the present program associate salary of $32,000, which reflects an 100%, 12-month appointment. The PA serves as coordinator of all personnel, workshop, collaborator contacting and staff meetings as well as central to all database information and workshop/meeting preparation.

**Student Workers: Student Assistants** - This amount provides for 600 additional paid hours ($8/hour) needed beyond the work study funding. Student workers support the front desk/phone operations and workshop preparation.

**Fringe Benefits:** Fringe benefits are calculated at standard UW rates: Faculty/Academic Staff at 46.4%; student research assistants at 2.9%; Classified staff at 83%.

**Supplies & Expenses**

**Supplies:** The computers and printers supplied by UWEC will need cartridges ($600/year) and the office will need to have general office supplies ($1,000/year) purchased. Assessments and Financial Aid materials currently used by the Educational Opportunity Center will need to be replenished ($2,000/year). Postage will be needed for some clients and collaborator communications ($500/year).
Staff Travel: Staff are expected to travel at least 300 to 400 miles each week (2 staff x 388 mi. = 776 mi. x 52 weeks = 40,352 mi. x $.48/ mi = $19,368). The geographical distance the staff must travel will be the greatest expense (second to salary and fringe). Although electronic and phone communications will be used as much as possible, new clients and collaborators will need face-to-face connections especially in initial meetings.

Other: National Student Clearinghouse is the resource used to confirm that adults are enrolled and taking classes in a certified postsecondary institution ($115/year). Brochures are distributed with every contact and presentation ($500/year). Printing includes business cards and other types of hard copy notices, posters etc. ($100/year). Computer fees for 5 counselor and user laptops and 3 desktops ($84/computer + one $50 surcharge, $722/year total). Telephone Service for the main office, student/reception phones and toll-free line = $2,200. Conference/ training events includes food, copying, and any travel involved for external presenters ($1,000/year).

Budget Estimate: $238,036 per year for 2 years totaling $476,072 or $198 per person recruited with a plan (for a total of 2,400 individuals).

Institutional Match: UWEC Continuing Education Unit will provide the match of 1 program counselor at $62,952 ($43,000 + $19,952 fringe) for the project. UWEC will provide all copy machines, computers (desktop and laptops), printers, office furniture and physical space. Many of the costs for conference/ training events will be provided by UWEC (space for 2 meetings, presenters, workshop prep. etc.).

UW Collaborators: The pilot dollars are focused on the staff at UWEC carrying out the EON activities. These activities at the collaborating campuses would be incorporated into the existing job activities of CE, recruitment and admissions staff without additional compensation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERSONNEL SALARY</th>
<th>FY2012-13</th>
<th>FY2013-14</th>
<th>FY2014-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Faculty and Academic Staff:</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
<td>$43,000.00</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Classified Staff:</td>
<td>$32,000.00</td>
<td>$32,000.00</td>
<td>$32,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Limited Term Employee:</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Research and Grad Assistants:</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Student Workers:</td>
<td>$4,800.00</td>
<td>$4,800.00</td>
<td>$4,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Other (i.e., Guest speakers, Consultants, etc):</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>$73,099.00</td>
<td>$19,952.00</td>
<td>$73,099.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Personnel Salary Sub Total:</strong></td>
<td>$209,899.00</td>
<td>$62,952.00</td>
<td>$209,899.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES &amp; EXPENSES</th>
<th>FY2012-13</th>
<th>FY2013-14</th>
<th>FY2014-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Equipment:</td>
<td>$2,922.00</td>
<td>$2,922.00</td>
<td>$2,922.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Supplies &amp; Expenses:</td>
<td>Office supplies, print materials, mileage</td>
<td>$24,215.00</td>
<td>$24,215.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Other (describe):</td>
<td>Collaborator meeting</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Supplies &amp; Expenses Sub Total:</strong></td>
<td>$28,137.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$28,137.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PROJECT FUNDING TOTALS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY2012-13</th>
<th>FY2013-14</th>
<th>FY2014-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$238,036.00</td>
<td>$62,952.00</td>
<td>$238,036.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRESENT CAREER SUMMARY
Interim Director of UWEC Continuing Education (7/ 2011- present)
- Provide leadership to CE Unit, supervising 24 staff
- Promote collaborative relationships among academic deans, department chairs, faculty and a wide range of external constituencies and agencies.
- Partner with colleges to create alternative access and delivery modes for nontraditional students.
- Provide leadership for recruitment of nontraditional students
- Develop and promote outreach programming

Director of the UWEC Educational Opportunities Centers Program (2010- Present)
- Work with agencies in 10 counties to collaborate & recruit clients
- Direct and supervise staff of 5
- Serve as liaison with US Dept. of Education – TriO
- Provide leadership for adult access to postsecondary education
- Counsel clients on postsecondary access

Private Coach & Consultant (1990-present)
COACH – Professionals transitioning in life and careers -1990 & ongoing
CONSULTANT – Develop continuing education that meets business & workforce development needs – 2006 & ongoing
THIRD AGE CONSULTING SPECIALTY – For education, workforce development & economic development to reinvent using the age 50+ worker – 2003 & ongoing

EDUCATION
University of Wisconsin - Madison
PH.D. in Educational Administration (minor - Learning Disabilities), 5/1997
Dissertation: “The Role of Literacy in Interagency Collaboration: A Rural/Urban Case Study”
Licensed as administrator for Wisconsin Technical College System.

Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota
PRINCIPALSHIP, Completed license, 5/1987
CURRICULUM COORDINATOR, Temporary license, 5/1987

University of Wisconsin – La Crosse
MASTER Of SCIENCE, Special Education / Learning Disabilities, 5/1978

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
BACHELOR OF ARTS, Communication Disorders, 1/1972

RECENT COMMITTEES, TASK FORCES, MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE
- Workforce development agency memberships in 10 counties
- Administrative Review Committee at UWEC
- Women’s Business Conference Planning Committee
- TRiO Organizational memberships at national, regional and state levels
February 20, 2012

Growth Agenda Grant Program
Academic Affairs
1730 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

Grant Proposal Review Team:

I am pleased to write this letter of endorsement for the “Educational Opportunity Network for Rural Access to College—UWEC Pilot Project” application to the University of Wisconsin System “Growth Agenda-Institutional Change” grant program.

The proposed grant period is from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2014. The project reflects a collaboration among UW comprehensive campuses (i.e., Eau Claire, Stout, Stevens Point, and Superior) and colleges (i.e., Barron County, Marshfield/Wood County, and Marathon County). Targeted outcomes will have a broad impact on the lives of hundreds of rural, non-traditional students annually, helping them to enroll in postsecondary schools.

The Educational Opportunity Network project is consistent with the values and priorities of UW-Eau Claire’s Centennial Plan 2008-2016, including “creating an environment in which students learn with and from people who are different from themselves” where civic leadership can “improve the quality of life in western Wisconsin.” Equally important, the partnering campuses also share a resolve to better serve non-traditional students in this catchment area. Indeed, collaborators are so committed to the initiative that key activities will be incorporated into the existing responsibilities of the institutions’ continuing education and admissions staffs without additional compensation, thus promoting a level of project sustainability.

Assisting non-traditional students from rural areas who have never attended college or have stopped out often find the prospect of “going on to school” confusing and overwhelming. The project team has experience establishing the trusting bonds necessary with these students to set them up for academic success. We look forward to working with UW System on this vital project to increase the number of Wisconsin graduates.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Kleine
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Excellence. Our measure, our motto, our goal.

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fax: 715-836-2902 • Web: www.uwec.edu/provost