**LEAP 2.0: Integrating Liberal Education into A Changing Landscape**

*May 30-31, 2013
The Pyle Center—Madison, WI*

**FINAL PROGRAM**

**Thursday, May 30th**

8:30-9:15  Check-in and Refreshments  
Room 325/326  (note: Registration will be outside the room on the 3rd floor)

9:15-9:30  Welcome – Mark A. Nook, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, UW System  
Room 325/326

9:45 – 11:00  Break-out Sessions I

Room 325/326  **Campus Takes a Leap: Using LEAP to Break Down Silos**  
Greg Cook (co-authored with Provost Bev Kopper), UW-Whitewater

At UW-Whitewater, LEAP has become a campus-wide framework that breaks down silos and facilitates communication and collaboration among all sectors to improve student learning. Example activities will be highlighted, and all participants will be invited to discuss how their campuses use LEAP to improve engagement and collaboration.

Room 213  **Giving the Liberal Arts a Great Start**  
Jayant Anand, UW-Barron County and Danica Oudeans, UW-Rock County

This presentation will include a description of the first-year seminar offered at UW-Barron County that uses the theme of the value of a liberal arts and sciences education to meet the course goals of active learning, development of life management skills, and engaging students on campus. The presenters will also discuss the development of innovative interdisciplinary courses to help students continue on the path of liberal arts and
Room 225  Civil Discourse and Civility as an Essential Learning Outcome: Help Us Think About UW-Stevens Point's Upcoming Civility Initiative – Chris Cirmo and Dona Warren, UW-Stevens Point

This session will provide a brief review of the background of UW-Stevens Point’s upcoming civil discourse initiative, present the conceptualization of civil discourse that will guide the initiative, and note how this conceptualization might align civil discourse with LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes and guide the development of learning activities. Significant time will be devoted to gathering the insights, ideas, and suggestions of session participants and to exploring possibilities for future inter-institutional collaboration around the topic of civil discourse.

Room 220  Integrative Learning and a First Year Interest Groups Program – Greg Smith, Sangay Sirleaf, and Brian Cole, UW-Madison

The First Year Interest Groups (FIGs) learning community program at UW-Madison is an example of a high impact practice in which LEAP’s Essential Learning Outcomes are fundamental. This panel presentation will provide examples of FIGs, summarize assessment results, and describe strategies the program uses to assess integrative teaching and learning. However, the primary focus of this presentation will be on the experience of students. Student panelists will discuss the impacts of their FIGs experiences in terms of the Essential Learning Outcomes, especially integrative learning.

11:15 – 12:30  Break-out Sessions II

Room 325/326  High Impact Practices in Undergraduate Research – Catherine Chan and Simone Devore, UW-Whitewater

We will discuss the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes students acquire as a result of participation in undergraduate research, and how we can use this information to further promote this practice and secure necessary resources from the university administration.

Room 213  LEAPing into General Education Reform at UW-Stevens Point, James Sage, Nancy LoPatin-Lummis, and Paula DeHart, UW-Stevens Point

Inspired by AAC&U’s LEAP initiative, UW-Stevens Point initiated a six-step, campus-wide revision of general education that was deliberate, transparent, and inclusive. Our new General
Education Program is based on measurable learning outcomes, it is organized around four levels to support developmental learning, it integrates high impact educational practices, and it utilizes a continuous improvement model of authentic assessment.

Room 225  
**Assessing Inclusive Excellence in the UW Colleges: The Creation and Adoption of the Intercultural Skills Proficiency for the UW Colleges Assessment Program**– Lisa Seale, UW Colleges and Valerie Murrenus Pilmaier, UW-Sheboygan

Following the lead of the American Association of Colleges and Universities and UW System Administration, the UW Colleges Assessment Program embarked on creating a proficiency (student learning outcome) that assesses some aspects of Inclusive Excellence in the curriculum, as students move into a more globalized world; this presentation will follow the journey toward creating this new proficiency, including the critical academic and political debates that attended the process involved in crafting it, specifics of the proficiency itself, and plans for using the data collected in assessing it. The presentation will include a discussion period in which other institutions that have utilized data obtained by assessing their Inclusive Excellence efforts can share their challenges and successes, particularly in regard to “closing the loop” on their projects.

Room 309  
**Writing (Still) Matters: A Framework for LEAPing Forward at UW-Whitewater** – Liz Hachten, Marilyn Durham, and Giuliana Miolo, UW-Whitewater

This panel presentation explores various dimensions of the four-year old Writing Matters project at UW-Whitewater, a faculty-driven initiative that has provided a fruitful framework for advancing LEAP and improving student writing in general education and major programs across campus.

Room 220  
**Building a Culture of LEAP: Superior’s Multi-Faceted Approach to Liberal Arts Education** – Eri Fujieda and Suzanne Griffith, UW-Superior

This presentation discusses how a multi-faceted approach to liberal arts education can help reshape student learning experiences and refocus the institutional attention to integration of engaging pedagogies and on-going assessments.

12:15 – 1:45  
**Lunch on your own**
Break-out Sessions III

Room 325/326  
*The Importance of ELOs in a Time of Change in Higher Education* – Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor, Christopher Olsen, and Wren Singer, UW-Madison

LEAP at a large research university: How the essential learning outcomes inform and anchor our work in times of change.

Room 213  
*LEAPing to a Campus-Wide Assessment Committee: Collaborating to Study Student Learning* – Greg Cook and John Stone, UW-Whitewater;

UW-Whitewater created a campus-wide committee that reviews assessment data related to the LEAP essential learning outcomes and makes recommendations to improve teaching, learning, and assessment. Presenters will describe how this committee operates and will also invite participants to share similar stories from their campuses.

Room 309  
*Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: A Summary of Two LEAP ELOs at UW-Whitewater* – Joan Littlefield Cook, Barbara Bren, Jolly Emrey and Christa Lebens, UW-Whitewater

UW-Whitewater has assessed critical thinking and information literacy skills and perceptions over the past several years using both nationally normed and locally developed assessments. This presentation will summarize these data, identify student strengths and weaknesses, and offer recommendations for instruction and assessment activities.

Room 225  
*An Outcome of LEAP: Continuous Improvement in General Education* – Lori Allen, James Robinson and Dennis Rome, UW-Parkside

LEAP allowed program-level learning goals and outcomes to be stated and assessed. From assessment, program-wide initiatives to improve consistency and an integrated learning experience targeting underprepared students were developed. This session will provide attendees with the details of our assessment work, the impact of the resulting initiatives, and invite conversations about other approaches to general education assessment and improvement.
Room 220  
**LEAP Launches Historic Reform of General Education at UW-Oshkosh** – Lori Carrell, Tracy Slagter, Mollie Merrill, Michael Lueder, Carleen Vande Zande and Mehgan Clark, UW-Oshkosh

How did a UW System campus that hadn't had change in its general education coursework and culture in 40 years use ‘LEAP' to launch a dramatic and historic reform? In this panel, students, faculty, and staff from UW Oshkosh will describe the transformative process that began in 2007 and will be implemented as the new University Studies Program in Fall 2013.

3:15-4:30  
**Room 325/326**  
**Plenary Address: Innovation, Opportunity, Resilience: The Next Generation of LEAP** – Debra Humphreys, Vice President for Policy and Public Engagement, Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U)

Introduced by Mary Pinkerton, UW-Whitewater

Debra Humphreys, long-standing leader in AAC&U’s work on quality through liberal education, will present her reflections on the history of the LEAP initiative—its original goals in Wisconsin and around the nation, and its emerging new priorities. She will provide an assessment of the current national dialogue on the future of higher education and the role LEAP national and campus leaders play in influencing that dialogue and steering it in more productive directions. She will also provide a summary of new research on the changing nature of the economy and the continued and even increasing value of liberal education outcomes in the post-recession workplace. Finally, she will provide some speculative thoughts about the future of LEAP and of liberal education.

4:30 – 6:00  
**Reception**

**Alumni Lounge**

Hosted by UW System President Kevin P. Reilly and including Recognition of the Student Recipients of the UW System’s 2013 Liberal Arts Essay Scholarship Competition

*Dinner on Your Own*
Friday, May 31st

Continental Breakfast provided at the conference hotels

8:30-9:15 Check-in and Refreshments
Room 325/326 (note: Registration will be outside the room on the 3rd floor)

8:30-9:45 Plenary: Technology, Innovation, and Flexibility: Exploring the Edges – Rovy Branon, Associate Dean, Online Learning and Technology, UW-Extension
Room 325/326

Introduced by Aaron Brower, Interim Provost, UW-Extension

Formal educational institutions are beginning to grapple with the waves of innovation that have been disrupting other parts of society. Looking outside of education might give some clues about what is next. This session will explore some potential disruptive (and fun) technologies and provide perspective to separate hype from reality.

9:45-10:00 Morning Break

10:00-11:15 Break-out Sessions I

Room 325/326 First to Flex at the UW Colleges – Julianna Alitto, Psychology and Education, UW-Waukesha; Tricia Wessel-Blaski, Psychology and Education, UW-Washington County; Kim Kostka, Chemistry, UW-Rock County

As part of the first cohort of Flex programs, UW Colleges faculty and staff will discuss the curricular development underway to convert multiple gateway courses into competency-based Flex offerings.

Room 225 The Changing Role of Faculty in Flex – Brett Barker, UW-Marathon County; Chad Zahrnt, UW-Milwaukee; Bill Keith, UW-Milwaukee (Tentative)

Join several of the faculty leaders in Cohort I of UW Flex to hear how the faculty role is changing in the move to a competency-based model.

Room 220 How Flex is Changing Institutional Operations for Admissions, Financial Aid, Bursar, and Student Records – Larry Graves, UW Colleges; Colleen Johnson, UW-Milwaukee; Beth Warner, UW-Milwaukee; and Jane Hojan-Clark, UW-Milwaukee
UW-Milwaukee and UW Colleges directors of admissions, financial aid, and bursar and registrar offices will address the complexity of moving from serving students in a credit-based system, to one that is competency-based: everything changes!

11:15-12:30 Break-out Sessions II

Room 325/326 First to Flex at UW-Milwaukee – Dave Clark, English; Doris Schoneman, Nursing; Shana Ponelis, Information Science and Technology; Phyllis King, Academic Affairs

As part of the first cohort of Flex programs, UW-Milwaukee faculty and staff will discuss the curricular development underway in select programs at the institution.

Room 225 A New Model for Advising: Ensuring Flex Student Success through Mentoring, Tutoring, and Coaching – Aaron Brower, UW-Extension; Ericca Pollack, UW-Milwaukee; Kristin Fillhouer, UW Colleges; Toby Deutsch, UW-Milwaukee

Join the advisors and others who are developing an innovative, wrap-around, and intrusive advising model that blends traditional academic and academic support roles to ensure the success of the adult students who enroll in UW Flex programs.

Room 220 Lessons from the Near-Sighted Monkey: LEAP 2.0 ELOs and the Future of Work – Terry Brown, UW System

AAC&U's LEAP 1.0 essential learning outcomes were informed by a 2006 survey of employers about skills that they believed the workers of today should have. Written and oral communication was at the top of their list. Last month, AAC&U released the results of its most recent survey of employers in which nearly all of the respondents said that the most important quality they are looking for is innovation. Are the current LEAP essential learning outcomes, specifically the intellectual and practical skills, sufficient for the kind of innovation that today's workplace demands? How do we teach innovation? This presentation will draw on inspiration from the artist and UW Madison professor Lynda Barry to re-think the LEAP essential learning outcomes in the context of the truly innovative, real and virtual, classroom.
12:30-1:15  Lunch
Alumni Lounge

1:15-3:00  Closing Plenary:  *LEAP Principles Applied to UW Flex: Aim High and Ask the Big Questions*
Room 325/326

A highly interactive session, including a panel discussion and audience participation facilitated by Debra Humphreys (AAC&U), with Greg Downey (UW-Madison), Vicki Washington (UW System), and Laura Pedrick (UW-Milwaukee).

Introduced by Rebecca Karoff, Senior Special Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, UW System

The panel will address:
- The impact of competency-based education on curricular integrity;
- Is this the end of the traditional university as we know it?
- Flex and LEAP: What's Flex got to do with LEAP? Is Flex coopting LEAP?
- What about Inclusive Excellence?

*Revised 5/28/13*