LIBERAL EDUCATION AND WISCONSIN'S PROMISE:
The Teaching, Learning, and Assessment of Liberal Education Outcomes
A Collaborative Conference For Faculty and Instructional Academic Staff from
UW System, WTCS and WAICU Institutions

Bemis Conference Center
St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI

Thursday and Friday, November 8 and 9, 2007

AGENDA
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8
12:00-1:00 Registration
1:00-2:00 Plenary—Fort Howard Theatre
Speaker: Debra Humphreys, Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs, Association of American Colleges and Universities

2:00-3:30 Liberal Education Panel—Fort Howard Theatre
What is the role of the liberal arts in the curriculum? How are they tied to your mission? What are the challenges and opportunities of helping the public outside of academe understand the importance of liberal education in this day and age?

Panelists:
William Hynes, President, St. Norbert College
Terrance Webb, Associate Vice President, Madison Area Technical College
Lane Earns, Provost and Vice Chancellor, UW-Oshkosh

3:30-3:45 Break—Lobby
3:45-5:45 Concurrent sessions—choose one of the following:

Session A: Assessing "Value Added" in the Liberal Arts: A Progress Report—114 ABCD
Marian Field Fass (Beloit College) and Deano Pape (Ripon College)
Session description: In a collaborative project funded by the Teagle Foundation, we are attempting to measure student achievement in civic engagement, quantitative reasoning and critical thinking as addressed in our general education courses and through our majors. Participants will discuss the challenges of assessment of student learning in the liberal arts and learn ways that two colleges are addressing these challenges.

Session B: Improving Liberal Education One Lesson at a Time—20 ABCD
Bill Cerbin (UW-La Crosse)
Session description: Lesson study is a method for improving teaching and learning in which a small group of instructors jointly designs, teaches, observes, evaluates and refines individual class lessons. The practice which originated in Asia is now being used by college teachers in the UW System to examine and improve their teaching and student learning. This workshop introduces you to the basic principles and practices of lesson study, and examines how you can use lesson study to design and study class lessons that address important liberal education outcomes.
Session C: Service Learning in the Liberal Arts—Hendrickson Dining Room

Suzanne Goodrich, Milwaukee Area Technical College
Janice Kanyusik, Nicolet Technical College
Shawna Carter, Service Learning Coordinator, Madison Area Technical College

Session description: This session will give a broad overview of models for enhancing student outcomes through community-engaging experiential learning. We will begin with a discussion of current research and writing supporting engaged learning, as well as a brief description of the varieties of ways that real-world contexts can be integrated into curricular and classroom outcomes; i.e. ways that communities can become “labs for learning”. Also included will be specific examples of Service Learning from the technical colleges that offer associate’s degrees in the liberal arts. Suzanne Goodrich, from Milwaukee Area Technical College, will describe how students in her online psychology classes manage to have a “real world” experience of learning objectives as students volunteer in their local communities, connect what they observe to course content, and share generally with the class. Shawna Carter from Madison Area Technical College will discuss how short-term education abroad provides global and cultural awareness for students across content areas, and will describe a sustainability project taking place this summer on a trip to rural Belize in Central America. And Janice Kanyusik from Nicolet College will describe the “Thailand Project,” an effort spearheaded by Student Services personnel and faculty members from the fine arts and sociology departments. The project sought to engage all college personnel and the local community using strategies to produce understanding about women and children exploited in Thailand’s sex industry.

5:45- Reception—Lobby
6:45 p.m. Banquet—Hendrickson Dining Room
Speaker: Richard Warch, Ph.D.
President Emeritus, Lawrence University
“Déjà Vu or Brave New World?”

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7:30-8:30 Buffet breakfast—Hendrickson Dining Room
8:30-10:30 Repeat of concurrent sessions A, B, and C
10:30-10:45 Break—Lobby
10:45-11:45 Facilitated roundtable discussions—Hendrickson Dining Room
11:45-12:00 Closing remarks—Hendrickson Dining Room
12:00-1:00 Lunch (boxed lunches)—Hendrickson Dining Room