

2003-05 Biennial Budget Supplemental Initiatives

Teacher Education

This initiative would address geographical and subject-area teacher shortages through: model special education programs, targeted financial aid to students agreeing to teach in special education and in urban districts, pre-college programs to introduce middle and high school students to the teaching profession, and alternative certification programs for subject shortage areas and to meet regional needs.

Nursing

The UW System and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) have developed coordinated initiatives to address the statewide shortage of nurses and allied health workers. The UW System's focus is on addressing the nursing shortage by:

- Preparing additional nurse educators for both technical colleges and 4-year colleges by increasing the number of graduate students in nursing.
- Increasing the capacity of traditional nursing programs as well as programs aimed at non-traditional students (distance education programs, degree completion programs for WTCS graduates, and accelerated degree programs for bachelor's degree graduates in non-nursing fields) by 100 FTE students in 2004-05.

Economic Stimulus

This initiative includes two parts:

- A request for the balance of funding needed to fully implement the 2001-03 biennium's **Economic Stimulus Package I**.
- Funding for **Economic Stimulus Package II**, a proposal to help Wisconsin further improve its economic potential by preparing students in high-tech, high-demand and other fields critical to the state's economic development; by funding spin-off research; and by supporting regional economic development partnerships. A summary of Economic Stimulus Package II is attached.

Ensuring Undergraduate Success

This initiative would provide UW institutions with resources to improve student retention and graduation through: development of learning communities and first-year seminars; increasing the number of opportunities for internships and undergraduate research; development of pro-active advising programs for at-risk students; and improving the general campus climate to create a welcoming and comfortable environment for all students.

Funding would also be provided for continuation of the Collaborative Language Program, a systemwide, collaborative effort among UW institutions to offer distance education courses in less-commonly-taught languages (Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Portuguese, and eventually Arabic) to students at UW institutions that would not otherwise be able to offer instruction in these languages.

Institutional Economic Stimulus Package Phase II Initiatives

UW-Milwaukee: The Milwaukee Idea – Phase 2. Like the Milwaukee Idea – Phase 1, the Milwaukee Idea – Phase 2 supports funding the “three E’s” essential for the recovery and sustained development of Wisconsin’s economy. The Milwaukee Idea – Phase 2 is built on the backbone established by Phase 1 initiatives and includes:

- Education: urban teacher preparation, enrollment increase and access
- Environment and Health: health care and health partnerships
- Economic Development: applied technologies, energy, security and safety

Stimulating Economic Growth Along the I-94 Technology Corridor. UW-Eau Claire, UW-River Falls, and UW-Stout have developed a joint proposal to begin implementation of initiatives that promote the economic development of the I-94 technology corridor.

- UW-Eau Claire would augment existing programs in computer science and software engineering with course work in computer organization and design, and would create two new computer design labs. With the Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC), UW-Eau Claire would develop and support a 2+2 program combining CVTC’s Electrical Engineering Technician program with UW-Eau Claire’s Computer Science program.
- UW-River Falls would increase the number of graduates in high technology majors, expand training opportunities for local employees to complete certificate programs, develop business incubator space, coordinate research programs for faculty and students to assist area businesses, train middle and high school teachers to expand their knowledge of high tech career fields, and enhance the interest of pre-college students in pursuing high technology careers.
- UW-Stout would expand a number of technology and economic development programs (including computer engineering/technology, plastics engineering technology, service management, disability case management, and food packaging) to meet workforce demands of west central Wisconsin.

UW-Green Bay: Learning Environment for the Knowledge Age. UW-Green Bay would address state and regional needs by: (1) providing access for additional students, (2) increasing retention by adopting strategies to enhance the experience of first-year students, and (3) reshaping its general education requirements to ensure that all students attain knowledge required for problem-solving based on multiple perspectives (including professional practice and citizenship experiences in the community).

UW- La Crosse: Western Wisconsin Health Care Workforce. UW-La Crosse would help alleviate western Wisconsin’s health care workforce shortage by creating an administrative body to coordinate and implement the distribution of health care programming throughout western Wisconsin; distributing health professions

programming such as Pharmacy Doctorate Clerkships (from UW-Madison), Radiation Therapy, and Clinical Laboratory Science (from UW-Milwaukee) via distance education to students in western Wisconsin; and implementing community-based professional development programming to distribute health care education via distance education.

UW-Oshkosh: Economic Stimulus for Northeast Wisconsin through Technology and Articulation. The UW Oshkosh Economic Stimulus Initiative uses leading edge technology and articulation with WTCS to address skill development issues as well as supply and demand needs in the State of Wisconsin. The underlying theme of this DIN is to fill unmet educational needs and thus to provide economic stimulus within Northeast Wisconsin with a well-prepared workforce. It has five components: 1) using the internet to deliver a variety of degrees to students who are time and place bound; 2) educating students in technology to make them more effective as citizens and employees; 3) providing technology services to Northeast Wisconsin and beyond using the technical expertise of faculty members at UW Oshkosh; 4) providing technology services to not-for-profit organizations; and 5) educational mobility – articulation with WTCS.

Competitive Manufacturing through Technology Management: UW-Oshkosh and UW-Stout. This collaborative initiative would integrate the management of technology and information to help manufacturing organizations become more competitive. The two institutions would provide three types of services and programs: (1) integrated technology and information management educational services through which faculty and area professionals would provide mentoring, customized training, public programs, and shop floor experiments for area businesses, (2) student internships or projects under faculty leadership to assist area businesses, and (3) academic programs (such as degree completion programs and combinations of UW-Stout and UW-Oshkosh courses) to serve working adults who wish to complete baccalaureate degrees and traditional students who cannot attend a university or technical college outside the region.

UW-Parkside: Graphic Arts and Expansion of Articulation Agreements. UW-Parkside would expand its Graphic Arts program to meet area business demand and would establish an Office of Coordinated Programs to provide assistance to students who move from the technical college to the campus via articulation agreements and to the faculty members teaching in degree-completion programs.

UW-Platteville: Security, Engineering and Building Construction Management. UW-Platteville would meet state and regional needs by: (1) educating criminal justice professionals, administrators, and leaders with the skills needed to improve security systems in areas such as power plants, hospitals, the tourism industry and air travel; (2) providing undergraduate engineering education to employees of Janesville-Beloit area industries; and (3) strengthening and building the capacity of the Building Construction Management program to support Wisconsin's construction industry.

UW-Stevens Point: Economic Development through Regional Partnerships. UW-Stevens Point would address the needs of area and international businesses for additional faculty and student expertise and assistance by establishing a new Economic

Development Institute (EDI). The EDI would serve as a clearinghouse to identify opportunities for placing advanced students into business-related internships, recruit faculty to work on projects and research requested by local and international businesses, and provide training to industrial clients throughout the area by working with the Wisconsin Learning Center, a collaborative distance education facility located in the Portage County Business Park.

UW-Superior: Economic and Educational Development for Northern Wisconsin. UW-Superior would expand distance education opportunities to address the increase in demand for distance education in the northern tier of the state. The institution would also establish an Institute for Leadership and Coordination of Economic Development in Northern Wisconsin to provide trend analysis, offer a consulting and technical support referral service, educate and train area employees, and coordinate the provision of faculty and student assistance to area businesses and industries.

The Technology Consortium: UW-Whitewater, UW-Parkside and UW-Rock County Collaborative. UW-Whitewater, UW-Parkside and UW-Rock County would establish a “technology consortium” to facilitate laddered academic and training opportunities from the secondary schools through the Wisconsin Technical Colleges and the UW System. The Consortium would provide undergraduate and graduate education for the development of new professionals for specific industry partnerships, graduate level education for those already working in those industries, and non-credit industry-specific staff development and specialized supporting services in the area of technology transfer.

UW Colleges: Math and Science. UW Colleges would fashion and implement an array of pedagogical approaches to enhance student success in general education courses in mathematics and selected science fields. The initiative would redesign courses in the existing curriculum to include on-line components, computer-aided instruction, and hybrid courses which would be taught partially online and partially in a face-to-face environment.

UW-Extension: New Outreach Partnerships for the New Economy – Regional and Cluster Economic Development. A basic means of helping to increase the demand for well-educated and highly-trained workers, resulting in high-wage job opportunities, is to stimulate and support locally-based, cluster-responsive, economic development strategies. By leveraging UW-Extension’s unique statewide outreach network in new ways, Wisconsin can increase the demand for educated workers, encourage the development of high-wage jobs, and boost the state’s per capita income. This initiative would enable UW-Extension to: (1) establish four task forces to focus on specific clusters of high-growth industries in Wisconsin, using the University’s research capabilities to provide baseline economic analysis; (2) expand its statewide network of community economic development educators to help apply the research done by the task forces and develop customized local economic growth strategies; and (3) leverage UW-Extension’s strong ties to community businesses and agencies to connect more students with service learning opportunities.