

Cultivating Excellence

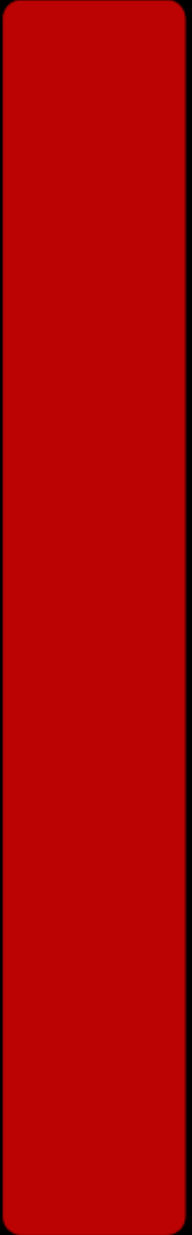
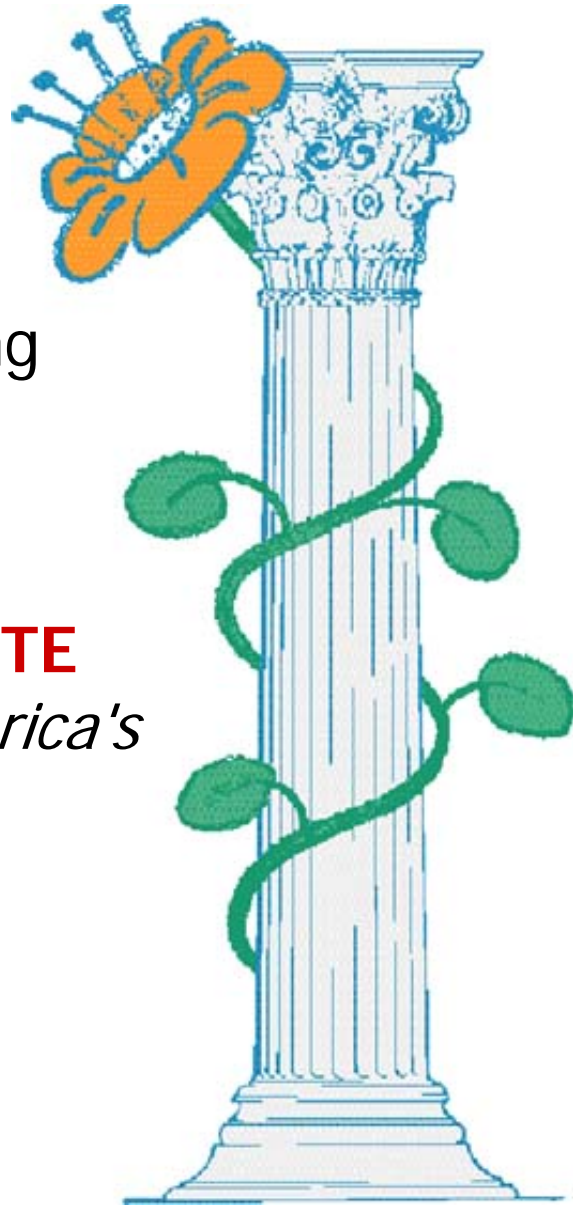
UW-Madison's Challenging Undergraduate Academic Experience

Virginia Sapiro, Interim Provost
University of Wisconsin-Madison



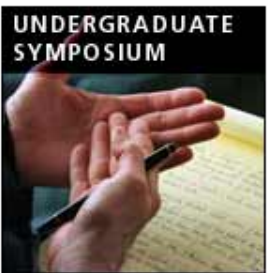
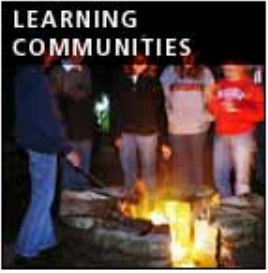
The Boyer Commission on Educating
Undergraduates in the Research
University

**REINVENTING UNDERGRADUATE
EDUCATION:** *A Blueprint for America's
Research Universities*
1998



THE UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

While a significant part of your academic career is geared toward meeting the university's **general education requirements** and those of your **majors**, learning opportunities beyond the classroom abound.





General Education Mission

To ensure that every graduate of UW-Madison acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education that establishes the foundations for:

- living a productive life, being a citizen of the world,
- appreciating aesthetic values, and
- engaging in life-long learning in a continually changing world.

For this reason, these core requirements provide for breadth across the humanities and arts, social studies, biological sciences and physical sciences; competence in communication, critical thinking and analytical skills appropriate for a university-educated person; and investigation of the issues raised by living in a culturally diverse society."

Core Academic Enrichment

- Living in a residential learning community
- Participating in a hands-on research experience
- Doing an internship/ fieldwork for academic credit
- Taking a service-learning course
- Taking an honors course
- Taking a seminar
- Doing an independent study with a professor
- Studying abroad through a UW-Madison program

Strategic Plan Goals

Advance Learning: Undergraduate Education

- Facilitate students in developing a foundation of knowledge, skills, creativity and love of learning to serve them throughout their lives
- Integrate learning throughout the undergraduate experience
- Create a learning environment that responds to students' diverse needs and backgrounds
- Assist students in preparing for citizenship in a diverse and global world
- Help faculty and professional staff improve their ability to provide first-rate education

Core Academic Enrichment Completed by Graduates

Academic Year	% of Graduates	# of
Degrees		
2002-03	69%	6,107
2003-04	73%	6,156
2004-05	80%	6,289

Target 100%





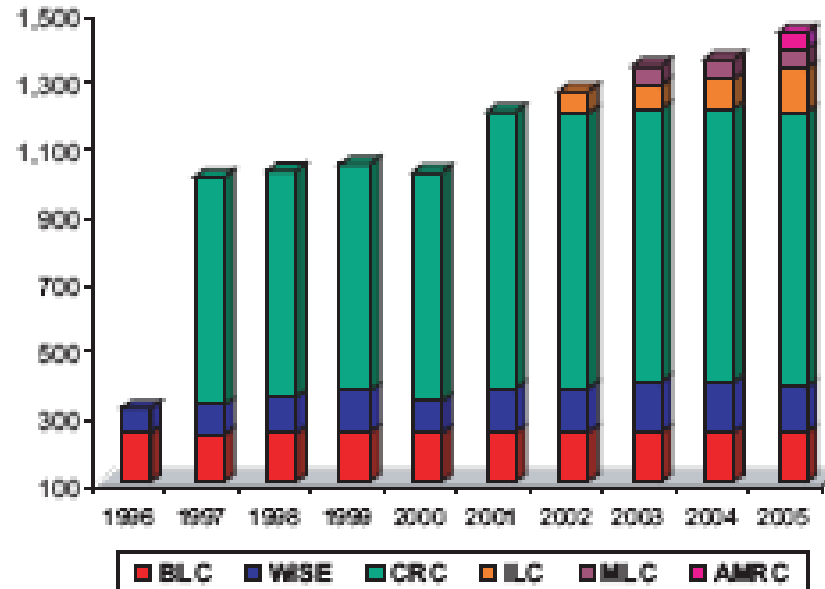
Multicultural Learning Community

Teach your tongue to say, "I do not know." -Hebrew Proverb



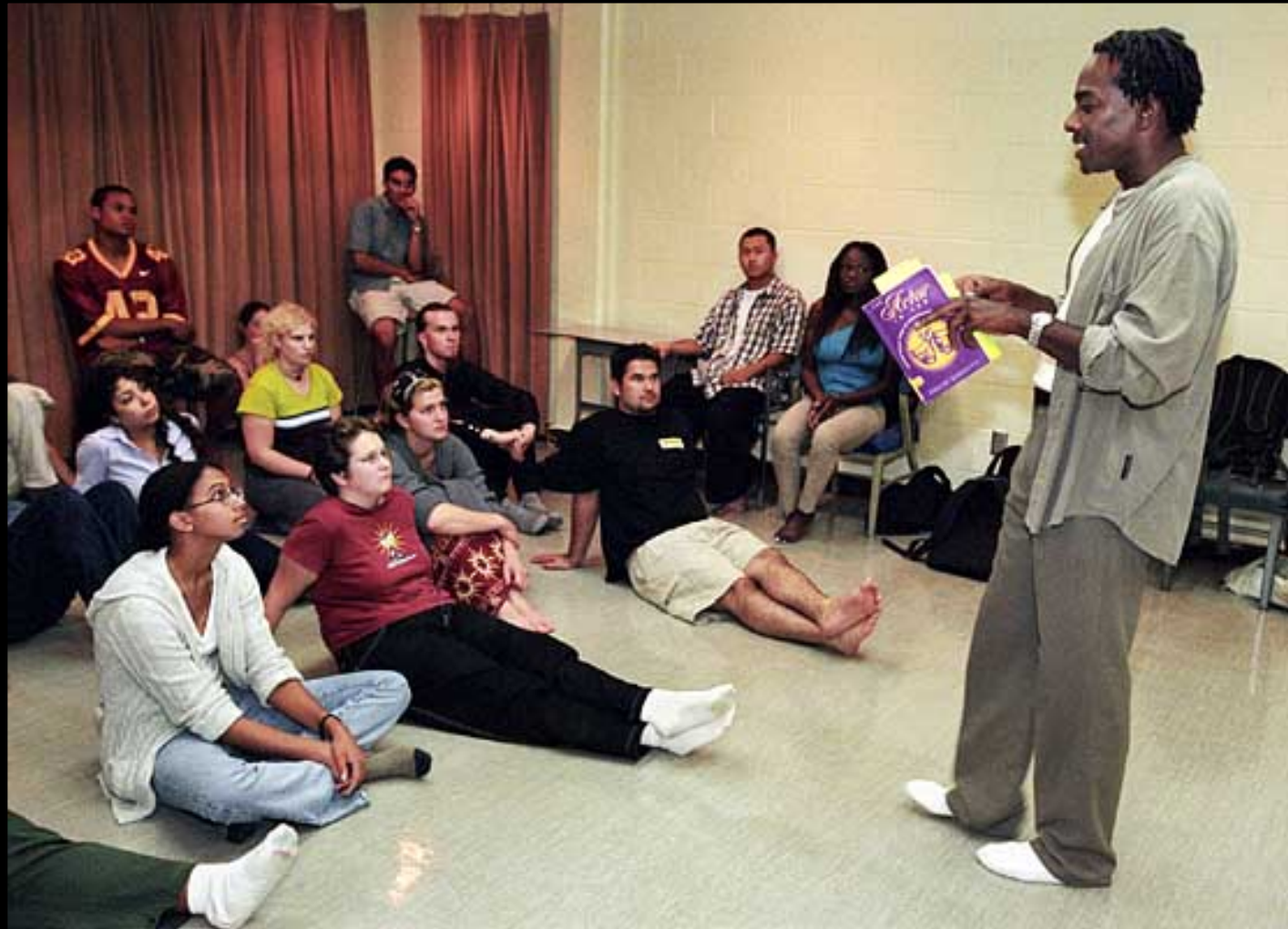
Residential learning communities include 1,436 students, 21% of all undergraduates in University Residence Halls.

Learning Communities The Past 10 Years



Residential learning communities include 1,436 students.

- **Bradley Learning Community (BLC):** 245 residents. This program is exclusively for first-year students.
- **Women in Science and Engineering (WISE):** 137 residents.
- **Chadbourne Residential College (CRC):** 816 residents.
- **International Learning Community (ILC):** 131 residents. The ILC features four language programs in 2005–06.
- **Multicultural Learning Community (MLC):** 56 residents.
- **Alexander Meikejohn Residential College (AMRC):** 50 residents.



National Study of Living-Learning Programs

(Summary by Professor Aaron Brower)

***Living-Learning* students, as a whole, are more likely to:**

- Have academic and cultural discussions with peers
- Have mentoring relationships with faculty, but not more likely to interact with faculty on course-related matters
- Find residence hall climate to be academically and socially positive

Plan on the following in the near future:

- Practicum or internship - Study Abroad
- Research with professor - Senior Capstone or Thesis

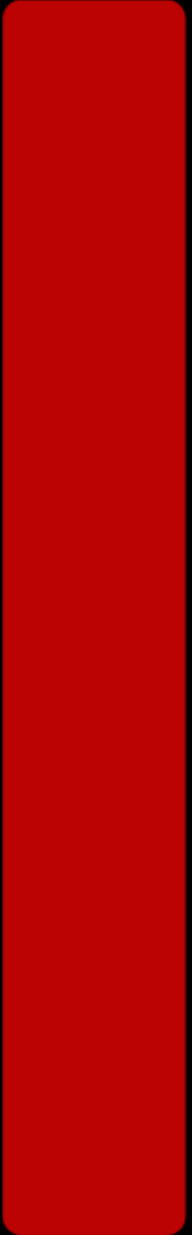
National Study of Living-Learning Programs

(Summary by Professor Aaron Brower)

Living-Learning students, as a whole, are more likely to:

- Have a higher cumulative GPA
- Plan on returning to same campus next year
- Enjoy a smooth transition to college
- Use critical thinking skills, apply knowledge across different contexts
- Have a stronger sense of civic engagement & empowerment
- Drink alcohol to less extremes
- Be more satisfied overall and with courses











National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates

Hilldale Undergraduate/Faculty Research Fellowships

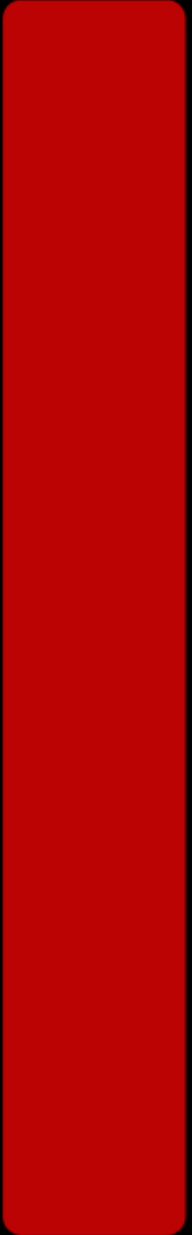
Wisconsin Idea Undergraduate Fellowships

Summer Sophomore Research Apprentices

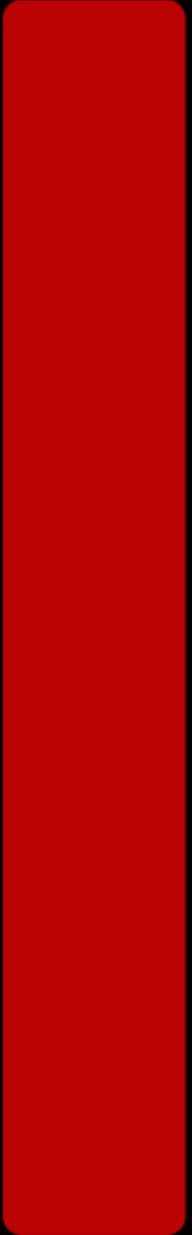
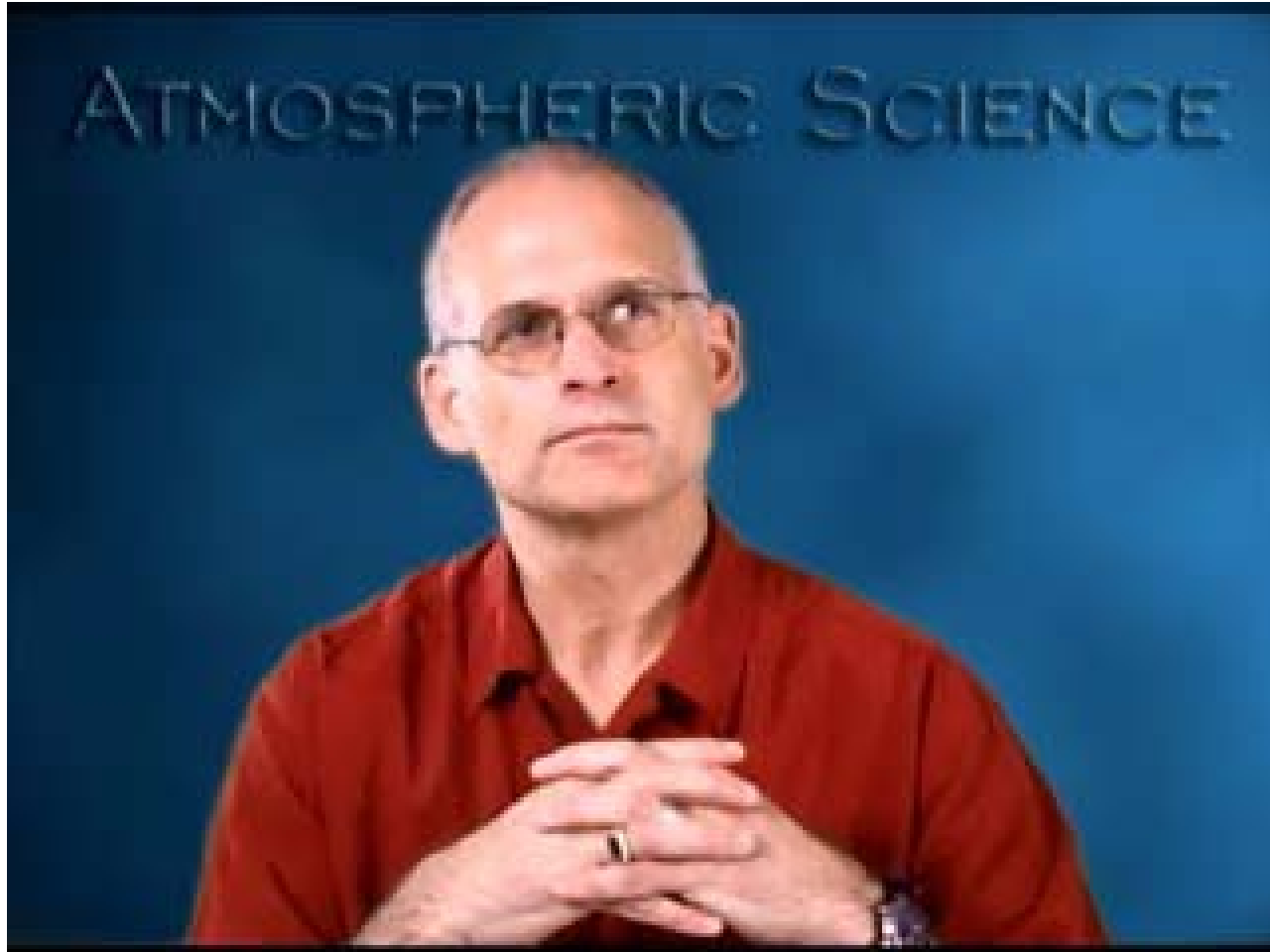
Holstrom Environmental Scholarships







ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE





University of Wisconsin-Madison

