Knowledge Powers Wisconsin

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Making Global Connections: Fab Lab brings MIT, worldwide technology network to UW-Stout

Menomonie, Wis. — A new laboratory on the University of Wisconsin-Stout campus is for dreamers who want to see their ideas come to life. "It’s a place where people can share their ideas and build almost anything," said Ken Smith, research associate for the UW-Stout Discovery Center. Student employees use Fab Lab Karl Wolter of Eau Claire, Wis. Read More...
Knowledge Powers Community

"Craft-e" alumni turn hobby into a multimillion dollar business

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh alumni Dean and Carole (Kosek) Duehring took a risk in 2008 by starting their own business during a severe economic downturn. The Oshkosh couple [...] 19 Dec 2012

Nearly 1,100 awarded degrees, celebrated at 2012 Midyear Commencement

"Hard work." That was a common response as University of Wisconsin Oshkosh graduates reflected on their personal investments and powerful educations in the moments lead [...] 15 Dec 2012
KNOWLEDGE
POWERS
A Competitive Edge for Southeastern Wisconsin
THE 21ST CENTURY FACE OF THE WISCONSIN IDEA

About 1 in 5 working-age adults in Wisconsin have some college credit but no degree. That's why we need a new way—different from traditional classrooms or even online instruction—to earn their UW degree. That is why the UW System and UW-Extension created the UW Flexible Option to strengthen Wisconsin's workforce by offering a convenient, affordable degree option from the same UW institutions that employers know and respect.

A NEW EDUCATIONAL MODEL FOR ADULT STUDENTS

The UW Flexible Option bridges the gap between what adults know today and the degree or certificate they need to advance their careers tomorrow. This option allows them to:

• Work efficiently toward degrees and certificates by demonstrating mastery of knowledge acquired through prior coursework, military training, on-the-job training, and other learning experiences;
• Start and stop on their degree at their convenience, no matter the time of day or day of the week;
• Progress at their own pace, completing subject area assessments when they feel ready rather than according to an instructor's class schedule;
• Pay for this option primarily for what they use.

UW Flexible Option programs will be developed in areas that serve the public interest, including areas of strong student demand and areas of economic growth and development in Wisconsin and beyond.

By fall 2013, UW-Milwaukee will offer four degree programs and one certificate program:

• A Nursing degree for Registered Nurses who need additional college to qualify for higher professional credentials (BSN or MSN);
• A Bachelor's Degree in Diagnostic Imaging, targeted toward certified diagnostic imaging professionals;
• A Bachelor's degree in Information Science and Technology, preparing students for jobs in today's digital culture and economy;
• A certificate in Professional and Technical Communication, providing students with the essential writing and oral communication skills needed in the workplace.

UW Colleges will provide general education and liberal arts courses in the new UW Flexible Option format in core fields such as biology, chemistry, mathematics, engineering, business, English, Spanish, geography, and others. UW Colleges will work to provide the Associate of Arts and Science degree via the UW Flexible Option, aiming to meet the general education requirements of other institutions.

UW-Superior and UW-Extension are developing UW Flexible Option general education courses in communications and art history, ready to enroll students in fall 2013. Several other UW System Institutions, including UW-Parkside, are working to develop flexible options for their degree programs, and additional offerings should be ready by fall 2014.

flex.wisconsin.edu
Social media

- @UWpowersWI provides a platform for success stories
- @UWpowersME launches on Monday, Feb. 11
- Unique, fun curated account
- First-person voices of students, faculty, staff, and alumni
Power of undergraduate research

Posters in the Rotunda

- Wed., April 17th
- More than 100 students plus faculty advisors and other UW delegates
- Legislative visits
- Follow #UWposters on Twitter
WisconsinBiz

- New print & electronic publication
- WEDC partnership (tied to “In Wisconsin” campaign)
- Statewide distribution + surrounding states
- 8-page section about UW System and “Knowledge Powers Wisconsin”
- Online content from UW System