



Office of the President

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February 20, 2004

Dear Education Partners:

I am pleased to submit to you the FY05 Federal Priorities collection on behalf of the University of Wisconsin System. We are proud of our efforts to provide high-quality public higher education to students in Wisconsin, and we are grateful for the role our federal congressional delegation plays in our success. The federal government's investment in public higher education is essential to our continued success.

The UW System's FY05 priorities fall into five categories, as follows:

Key Funding Initiatives: This category describes the federal programs for which UW System institutions effectively compete. Financial aid plays a significant role in enabling individuals to pursue a higher education in our state. In 2002, almost five of every six, or 81 percent, of financial aid dollars to UW students were provided or underwritten through a federal program.

Key Legislative Initiatives: The reauthorization of the Higher Education Act is of significance to UW institutions and students during the 2nd Session of the 108th Congress. The vast majority of need-based student financial aid programs, as well as specific academic programs, are contained in the act. Our institutions will also be following the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act, which governs career and technical education.

UW System Priorities and Campus Priorities: UW institutions have submitted for consideration many worthy requests for federal funding. Importantly, several of the requests further economic development, specifically in Wisconsin's manufacturing sector, as well as education and training to strengthen workforce development, including the need to train nurses.

UW System Data: The included funding data demonstrate the importance of federal investment in each of our University of Wisconsin System institutions.

The University of Wisconsin System looks forward to continued collaborations and partnerships with the federal government in providing educational opportunities for Wisconsin citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katharine C. Lyall".

Katharine C. Lyall
President