

February 3, 2006

Dear Education Partner:

I am pleased to submit to you the FY2007 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 UW System's FY2007 priorities fall into five categories, as follows:

**Key Federal Funds:** This category describes the majority of the federal funding that our institutions receive, and budget priorities for research and financial aid. Almost five of every six, or 81 percent, of financial aid dollars to UW students are provided or underwritten through a federal program. The Pell Grant program provides almost \$72 million to approximately 30,000 students who, without this assistance, might not enroll and remain in institutions of higher education.

**Key Legislative Initiatives:** The reauthorization of the Higher Education Act continues to be a priority for UW institutions in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress. Two provisions unique to UW System institutions include a revision amending the HEA to define the terms "different campus" and "different population," and maintaining the current allocation formula for campus-based aid programs.

**UW System Priorities and Campus Priorities:** UW institutions have submitted for consideration many worthy requests for federal funding. Several of the requests will improve access to, and the quality of, postsecondary education. Several requests will promote economic development in Wisconsin, and several others will also help in growing research capacity in areas of state and national interest.

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

The federal government investment is essential in fulfilling the mission of the University of Wisconsin System – to teach students, engage in research of national significance, and extend the university's reach through public service. Thank you for sharing our vision and for championing higher education opportunities for all.

Sincerely,

Kevin P. Reilly  
President