U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GreenRibbonSchools

Postsecondary Sustainability Award Nominee Presentation Form

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATIONS

College or University Certifications

The signature of college or university President (or equivalent) on the next page certifies that each of the statements below concerning the institution's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of their knowledge.

1. The college or university has been evaluated and selected from among institutions within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction, based on high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
2. The college or university is providing the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) access to information necessary to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct a compliance review.
3. OCR has not issued a violation letter of findings to the college or university concluding that the nominated college or university has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes. A violation letter of findings will not be considered outstanding if OCR has accepted a corrective action plan to remedy the violation.
4. The U.S. Department of Justice does not have a pending suit alleging that the college or university has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clause.
5. There are no findings by Federal Student Aid of violations in respect to the administration of Title IV student aid funds.
6. The college or university is in good standing with its regional or national accreditor.
7. The college or university meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Postsecondary Sustainability Award

Name of President/Chancellor: Rebecca M. Blank, Ph.D.
(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., etc.) (As it should appear in the official records)

Official College or University Name: University of Wisconsin–Madison
(As it should appear on an award)

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify that to the best of my knowledge all information is accurate.

Rebecca Blank
_____ Date: February 24, 2021
(President's/Chancellor's Signature)

Nominating Authority's Certifications

The signature by the Nominating Authority on this page certifies that each of the statements below concerning the college or university's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of the Authority's knowledge.

1. The college or university has been evaluated and selected from among institutions within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction, based on high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
2. The college or university meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety

requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

Name of Nominating Agency: University of Wisconsin System

Name of Nominating Authority: Tommy G. Thompson, Esq.
(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., Other)

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify to the best of my knowledge that the school meets the provisions above.

Tommy G. Thompson Date: February 24, 2021
(Nominating Authority's Signature)

SUBMISSION

The nomination package, including the signed certifications, narrative summary, documentation of evaluation in the three Pillars, and photos should be submitted online according to the instructions in the Nominee Submission Procedure.

OMB Control Number: 1860-0509
Expiration Date: December 31, 2023

Public Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1860-0509. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 37 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit P.L. 107-110, Sec. 501, Innovative Programs and Parental Choice Provisions. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202-4536 or email ICDocketMgr@ed.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1860-0509. Note: Please do not return the completed ED-Green Ribbon Schools application to this address.

College/University Name: University of Wisconsin –Madison
Street Address: 500 Lincoln Dr
City: Madison State: WI Zip: 53706
County: Dane Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Number: 240444
Website: www.wisc.edu
President/Chancellor Name: Rebecca Blank
President/Chancellor Email Address: chancellor@.wisc.edu Phone Number: 608-262-9946

Basic Carnegie Classification	Doctoral Universities: Very High Research Activity
Minority-Serving Institution	n/a
Enrollment Profile	Undergraduate Enrollment: 31,185 Graduate Enrollment: 9,299 Clinical Doctorate: 2,562 % of Undergraduates receiving PELL Grant: 14%* Graduation rate (150% of normal time): 87.6%** Average Institutional Net Price: $16,103*** *https://uwmadison.app.box.com/s/4xmnrquref7eub7krtgfej7irqtw2kqr **https://www.google.com/url?q=https://uwmadison.app.box.com/s/4xmnrquref7eub7krtgfej7irqtw2kqr&sa=D&ust=1610490024176000&usg=AOvVaw31Fh7g8j5sbMW83ZFEO39G ***https://www.wisconsin.edu/accountability/cost-and-efficiency/

1. Is your college or university participating in a local, state or national program which asks you to benchmark progress in some fashion in any or all of the Pillars?
(x) Yes ( ) No Program(s) and level(s) achieved:

- Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System (STARS) Silver rated institution
- Second Nature Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitments, Resilience Commitment

2. Has your college or university received any awards for facilities, health or environment?
(x) Yes ( ) No Award(s) and year(s)

- Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges (2021)
- Sierra Cool School (2021)
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainable Campus Index (2020)
- The League of American Bicyclists Platinum-level Bicycle Friendly University (2019)
- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Professional Award (2018)
- U.S. Water Sustainability Award (2017)

- Sustainability Innovation in Research and Education (SIRE) Award (2015)
- Student Research in Sustainability Award from AASHE (2015)
- Innovation Green Building Award by AASHE, Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) (2012)

Executive Summary

The University of Wisconsin–Madison (UW–Madison) has a deep legacy of environmental stewardship: pioneering figures like Aldo Leopold and Gaylord Nelson rooted their careers at the university, and today UW–Madison continues to be a leader in environment- and sustainability-related research, education, and operations. Green principles and practices permeate campus life, from a diverse range of course offerings, student organizations, and co-curricular activities, to alternative transportation options, historic natural areas, and robust health and wellness services.

UW–Madison addresses sustainability holistically: for instance, the university achieved a 38% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2007-2018, but it is also a powerhouse for sustainability and environmental studies, graduating over 2,000 students from related programs in the last five years. UW–Madison provides crucial mental health resources to millions globally through the Center for Healthy Minds, engages Native Nations around the state of Wisconsin in community development, and is working to break the cycle of poverty in Madison by providing education for vulnerable communities. Additionally, UW–Madison continues to rank in the top ten public or private research universities, generating over $459 million in sustainability-related grant funding, and conducting the most climate change research of any Midwestern university.

This application will enumerate these and many other achievements, programs, initiatives, and highlights. Throughout the three pillars of the application, the information provided will reinforce a key component of UW–Madison's mission statement, which is to "provide a learning environment in which faculty, staff and students can discover, examine critically, preserve and transmit the knowledge, wisdom and values that will help ensure the survival of this and future generations and improve the quality of life for all."

Pillar I: Reduce Environmental Impact and Costs

The UW–Madison Strategic Framework captures the university's commitment to reducing its environmental impact and costs, as described in the strategic priority to "[p]ractice sustainability principles in the stewardship of campus resources, recognizing our environmental responsibility to people and the planet." The following section of this application includes descriptions of practices and programs that reflect this strategic priority.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Energy

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

UW–Madison manages its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data through the Sustainability Indicator Management and Analysis Platform (SIMAP). The university has reduced its emissions from 801,165.28 Metric tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent gasses (MTeCO2) in 2007 to 504,320.51 MTeCO2 in 2018, a reduction of 38%. This is especially noteworthy because, over the same time period, gross square footage of building space increased by 18.5% and the population of campus increased by 7%. Despite these improvements, the university continues to address its contribution to climate change. Chancellor Rebecca Blank signed Second Nature's Resilience Commitment in 2019, thereby pledging to create an institutional Climate Action Plan. A campus-wide resilience assessment aimed at identifying campus' assets and vulnerabilities to climate change is now underway. Following the completion of the assessment, the Climate Action Plan will be developed and implemented.

Energy Efficiency

The majority of buildings on the UW–Madison campus are heated and cooled through a campus-operated district system. The Charter Street Heating and Cooling Plant (CSHC), the Walnut Street Heating and Cooling Plant, and the West Campus Cogeneration facility (which is jointly operated with UW–Madison's electricity provider, Madison Gas & Electric (MGE)), provide steam and chilled water to campus. These plants use natural gas—with an 88-89% efficiency rating at CSHC—and cogeneration processes to maintain safe and comfortable facilities while managing energy use and cost.

UW–Madison has also been working to improve the energy efficiency of campus buildings. From 2007 to 2018 there was a 19% reduction in total building energy consumption per square foot of space. In addition to building new, energy-efficient structures, the university has invested in the efficiency of existing buildings. Facility improvement efforts have saved over 4,000,000 MMBTU of energy and over $44,000,000 in energy costs in the past 10 years. Improvements have included lighting retrofits, utility infrastructure improvements, and building HVAC updates.

Renewable Energy

Approximately 10% of UW–Madison's electricity use is offset by the purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates (REC) by the Wisconsin State Department of Administration (DOA). UW–Madison also generates renewable electricity on its main campus through multiple rooftop solar photovoltaic systems and rooftop solar hot water systems. While these systems represent a small portion of total campus energy consumption, many were advocated for by students and developed in partnership with the UW–Madison's student-focused Green Fund. Renewable energy developments supported by the Green Fund provide students with real-world opportunities to lead planning, design, funding, and development processes. (See Pillar 3 for additional information on the Green Fund.)

Finally, UW–Madison recently partnered with its local electricity provider Madison Gas and Electric to support the development of the largest solar array in Dane County. UW–Madison will purchase half of the energy produced by the 20-megawatt solar array that MGE is building in partnership with EDF Renewables. The O'Brien Solar Fields will provide locally generated solar energy to businesses, municipalities and public institutions. When the solar array is completed in summer 2021, it will supply 5% of the total electricity purchases for the university.

Water Quality, Efficiency, and Conservation

Water Conservation

From 2007 to 2018, UW–Madison decreased total potable water consumption by almost 20%, even as the total square footage of buildings space increased by 18.5% and the population of campus increased by 7%. Efforts to promote water conservation and install efficient equipment and fixtures have largely driven this decrease. Of particular note is the work done at the Charter Street Heating & Cooling plant (CSHC). CSHC draws 500-600 million gallons of water per year from Lake Mendota. Initially, this water was treated with bleach, sand, coagulants, and flocculants to prevent organic buildup in CSHC machinery; the wastewater from the process, however, had to be routed to the sanitary sewer before being released into the watershed. By removing the bleach, operators at CSHC were able to divert over 70 million gallons of water from the sanitary sewer drain to the storm sewer between 2016-2017. Avoiding the sanitary sewer drain and thus the wastewater treatment plant reduced both energy usage and emissions. UW–Madison's water treatment vendor, U.S. Water, gave the university an award for sustainability, recognizing the reduction in sanitary sewer volume from the plant and an annual savings of $191,970.

Water Quality

Water consumed on campus and discharged off campus is monitored, maintained, and improved through a number of programs:

- The Environmental and Occupational Health Program (EOH) assesses and monitors water quality on campus by investigating drinking water complaints, conducting water analyses, and monitoring campus swimming beaches/pools. EOH also conducts inspections and sampling to evaluate campus stormwater runoff.
- Pesticide Use Policy: the Environment, Health & Safety Department (EH&S) protects UW–Madison employees and the environment from hazards associated with pesticide use on university lands and controlled properties. The major objectives of its pesticide use policy are to:
    - Ensure that UW–Madison students, faculty, staff and visitors are informed of university pesticide use practices through correct notification procedures.
    - Define the responsibilities of UW–Madison departments, facilities, agricultural workers, pesticide users, and their supervisors.
    - Minimize pesticide exposure to surface water runoff to reduce the amount of pesticides introduced into area lakes, ponds, and streams.
- The university employs a number of Integrated Pest Management principles such as planting native species, using physical controls as the first approach to pest management, and strictly monitoring and sampling soils prior to any fertilizing to reduce the need for fertilizer application. For campus property including and directly adjacent to natural areas (e.g. the Lakeshore Nature Preserve and the Arboretum), a sustainable landscape management plan limits potential negative inputs into the environment.

- The Yahara CLEAN Compact seeks to improve the condition and usability of the lakes and beaches within the Yahara Watershed, of which the UW–Madison campus is a part. UW–Madison participates in the Compact with a number of campus entities, including the Limnology Department, the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, and the Division of Extension. The Compact expands and strengthens community partnership to clean up the lakes and unite around a common vision and action plan. Additional compact partners include Dane County, the City of Madison, Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin, and others.
- Wisconsin Salt Wise is a coalition of organizations from around Dane County whose goal is to reduce salt pollution in lakes, streams, and drinking water. The coalition hosts a number of education and outreach events; at UW–Madison, such events bring students and operations staff together to analyze and reduce the amount of salt campus uses. The UW–Madison Office of Sustainability serves as the administrative home for Wisconsin Salt Wise.

Green Infrastructure

Campus Planning & Landscape Architecture (CPLA) manages green infrastructure at UW–Madison that incorporates soil, vegetation, and natural hydrologic features to manage precipitation and stormwater. CPLA employs a number of systems on campus including rain gardens, permeable pavement, green roofs, stormwater ponds, cisterns, and underground detention systems. The goal of these technologies is to create an integrated system that mimics natural processes to infiltrate, evapotranspirate, or reuse stormwater to benefit campus users and the environment. To maintain transparency and encourage learning, CPLA maintains an interactive Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) map including all locations of BMPs and wellheads on campus. In addition, the Campus Master Plan indicates specific goals for green infrastructure on campus, which are to:

- Implement stormwater practices and policies that contribute to healthy Yahara lakes;
- Integrate research and learning into the campus stormwater management approach; and
- Connect campus stormwater management to the wider Yahara lakes watershed community.

Resource Management

UW–Madison hosts tens of thousands of campus users every day. To maintain a clean and healthy environment, the university maintains a robust, innovative system for waste minimization, diversion, and management. UW–Madison set a goal of becoming a zero waste campus by 2025, detailed in its Campus Master Plan. From 2007 to 2018, the university reduced total waste by 13% per campus user and in 2018 diverted 43% of campus waste from the landfill. Waste diversion programs include:

- Surplus with a Purpose (SWAP) receives over 20 tons of surplus property every week from UW–Madison and other state facilities. Items are re-purposed locally or sold through online auction.
- Facilities Planning & Management staff collect food scraps from locations across campus and transport them to a biodigester operated by Gundersen Envision. These food scraps are combined with cow manure from local dairy farms as well as compost material from other sources. The digestion process produces biogas, which Gundersen harnesses to generate electricity, as well as liquid fertilizer and solid compost, both of which are used as soil amendments to grow food.
- Campus recycling includes typical recyclable items as well as specialty recycling covering items such as Styrofoam/EPS, medications, cell phones, batteries, and other electronics.
- The Environmental, Health and Safety department maintains a "Recyclopedia" with information on the appropriate recycling (or disposal) method for a number of hazardous materials.

- UW–Madison maintains a chemical redistribution program. This program catalogs and indexes surplus chemicals and makes them available, free of charge, to labs on campus.

Sustainable Transportation

With one of the lowest parking spaces per campus user ratios in the United States, UW–Madison supports a variety of alternative and sustainable transportation options to meet commuting needs. With 16,000+ bike parking spots, a bicycle resource center for DIY repairs and bicycle-related classes, a number of bicycle air and repair stations across campus, and platinum-level bike friendliness rating, UW–Madison and the greater Madison area are often considered the biking capital of the Midwest. The university also maintains a collaborative relationship with the city's transportation team. This partnership is reflected in the shared input in transportation planning including bus routes and bike share programs as well as discounted bus passes and bike share memberships for students and employees.

To support employees and students who are unable to use bikes or public transportation, UW–Madison provides a number of options:

- The Wisconsin State Vanpool Program consists of groups of 8-15 commuters who share their ride to work in a passenger van that is owned, insured, and serviced by the program.
- Faculty and staff who participate in the carpool program share the cost of parking permits and vehicle use as well as have access to special parking permits. Carpool members are also offered six complimentary, temporary daily parking passes for use when the main permit is unavailable, or a member cannot ride in the carpool that day.
- Flexible pay as you go parking: The flex program allows access to parking for individuals who do not normally drive to campus.
- Through the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) program, employees can use a pre-printed voucher to cover the cost of a cab ride home. The intention of ERH is to serve as a safety net so those who choose not to drive to campus need not fear being stranded in an emergency.

Pillar 2: Improve the Health and Wellness of Students, Faculty and Staff

UW–Madison supports health and wellness for all campus users by employing a holistic approach that includes physical healthcare, abundant and innovative mental health resources, individualized nutrition, classroom and workplace health and safety measures, and more. The following sections describe some of the key policies and programs that UW–Madison administers to promote positive health and wellbeing. The section covers physical health, mental health, recreation, nutrition, environmental health and safety, campus planning, as well as information on the university's response to COVID-19.

Physical Health

University Health Services (UHS) serves as the main resource for student health and wellness. UHS offers medical services including immunizations, lab services, physical therapy, occupational medicine, sexual health, and much more. UHS also serves as an inclusive resource for the campus, recognizing that people are unique, with varied beliefs, cultural backgrounds, gender identities and sexual orientations. UW–Madison is proud to be recognized by the Human Rights Campaign as a Transgender-Inclusive Benefits University.

The Prevention and Campus Health Initiatives unit provides population-based prevention and health promotion strategy to the UW–Madison community. UHS prevention professionals work with faculty,

instructional staff, and TAs to address health issues with students such as sexual and relationship violence, substance abuse, suicide, and wellness through a health equity and social justice lens.

Food and Nutrition

Nutrition Resources

- University Housing hosts NetNutrition, an online resource that the campus community can use to select well-balanced meals, determine how food choices add up nutritionally, and screen dining venues for potential allergens. University Housing also provides recommended resources like fitday, a diet journal to help campus members track food intake, exercise, goals and weight loss, and ChooseMyPlate which offers healthy eating tips, personalized meal plans and diet analysis.

Food Access

- The Campus Food Shed aims to address food insecurity and unnecessary food waste. Research produce and other fresh produce that would otherwise be thrown away is distributed to several fridges located conveniently on the UW–Madison campus. The food is free for students, faculty and staff. The fridges are stocked multiple times a week in accordance to the academic calendar.
- The Open Seat, the university's student food pantry, aims to alleviate food insecurity by distributing food from Second Harvest Foodbank. In 2020, for instance, Open Seat offered Thanksgiving food boxes for students who elected to stay on campus during the holiday due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program distributed nearly 500 individual recipe bags. The Open Seat is managed by UW–Madison's student government, the Associated Students of Madison.
- F.H. King: Students for Sustainable Agriculture is a student organization working to promote sustainable agriculture. The largest F.H. King project is a student farm at Eagle Heights, where students learn organic and sustainable gardening techniques. The 1.75-acre plot produces approximately 2900 pounds of vegetables, fruit, flowers and herbs each growing season. Most of the produce is distributed free of charge to the campus community at Harvest Handouts.
- UW–Madison is home to one of the national chapters of Slow Food, an organization that aims to retain food culture, reverse the fast-food culture, reflect on the impact their food choices have, and promote a relationship between people and the food they eat. SlowFoodUW hosts regular events through their Cafe, Family Dinner Night, and South Madison programs. The South Madison Program in particular connects UW–Madison students with the local community. This effort promotes "good, clean, and fair" food through cooking, gardening, and other food-based programming. Slow Food students have expanded their reach over the years and now work closely with the Boys and Girls Club, Odyssey Program, Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, and Goodman Library.

Mental Health

Wellness

- University Health Services (UHS) offers no-cost mental health services including individual, couple/partner, group counseling, outreach programming, and stress management for students. UHS also offers 24/7 crisis services. Psychiatry services are also available for medication management.
- UWell is a campus-wide effort committed to benefiting and promoting wellness on campus.

UWell sees wellness in its seven dimensions: physical, spiritual, career/academic, emotional, social/cultural, financial, and environmental. UWell and its website are designed to help all current and future members of the campus community find credible resources and information.

- The Center for Healthy Minds works to cultivate well-being and relieve suffering for people of all backgrounds and ages through a scientific understanding of the mind. The center also benefits from cross-disciplinary research collaborations in the arts and humanities, the physical and natural sciences, and the social sciences. The Center has reached almost 4 billion people via media exposure, including TED Talks, Netflix's show *Explained,* PBS Media, and ABC News. The program has also issued 64 peer-review publications, created a program app that has been used by over 65,000 people, and hosted nearly 50,000 participants in live programming addressing wellness during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Bandana Project is designed to spread awareness about mental health resources. The program distributes lime green bandanas across campus, which are attached to students' backpacks. These indicate to others that the student is a safe individual to approach about mental health-related issues, that the student knows where resources are, and that the student holds resource cards (provided by the UW–Madison Police Department) with information about outlets like UHS, National Alliance on Mental Illness-UW, and National Crisis Lines. Since its inception, the project has distributed over 6,000 bandanas to campus users.

Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive Campus

To support wellness for all and to foster a healthy and inclusive campus community, UW–Madison strives to create a campus climate in which everyone feels that they belong and that their voices and experiences matter. There are many units and initiatives whose mission is to foster inclusion and promote equity. Some of these include:

- Under the direction of the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion & Chief Diversity Officer, the Division of Diversity, Equity & Educational Achievement (DDEEA) supports the UW–Madison's mission as it works to create a diverse, inclusive and excellent learning and work environment for all students, faculty, staff, alumni and partners at the university. The DDEEA prioritizes the core values of community, inclusion, organizational excellence, transparency, accountability, and social justice.
    - The Diversity Framework sets out goals following the R.E.E.L. Change Model (Retain, Equip, Engage, Lead):
        - **Goal 1:** Promote shared values of diversity and inclusion.
        - **Goal 2:** Improve coordination of campus diversity planning.
        - **Goal 3:** Engage the campus leadership for diversity and inclusion.
        - **Goal 4:** Improve institutional access through effective recruitment of diverse students, faculty, staff and through effective relationship building with the wider community.
        - **Goal 5:** Improve institutional success through improved retention.
    - DDEEA offers a wide range of diversity and inclusion resources and trainings for faculty and staff.
    - To ensure UW–Madison maintains an inclusive campus climate, DDEEA conducts a regular survey to gauge student experience. The goal of this survey is to understand students' experiences and perceptions around campus climate and diversity. The survey resulted in seven concrete recommendations to improve the campus climate.
- Engagement and outreach events are also central to the mission of DDEEA. For 20 years, the

Diversity Forum has provided an annual opportunity to discuss, share, and learn about issues related to diversity and inclusion on campus. In 2016, the Native Nations_UW (NN_UW) Working Group was convened to partner with the Native Nations in Wisconsin to improve health services, preserve the environment, develop local economies, strengthen families, and expand educational opportunities. The goal of the plan is to work with Wisconsin Native Nations to conduct research and educational networks with Tribes.

- Additional collaborative initiatives with Native Nations include:
    - Bad River Youth Outdoors, a watershed education program that combines outdoor education with teachings about Ojibwe culture and water.
    - Place-Based Opportunities for Sustainable Outcomes and High Hopes (POSOH), a partnership between the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with the Menominee and Oneida Nations to develop community-wide and cross-institutional collaborations that co-construct approaches to formal and informal science education.
    - The Gikinoo'wizhiwe Onju Waaban (Guiding for Tomorrow) Changing Climate, Changing Culture or "G-WOW" Initiative demonstrates a new model of culturally relevant climate literacy by integrating traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and place-based evidence of how climate change is affecting the traditional "lifeways" of the Lake Superior Ojibwe.
    - Healthy Children, Strong Families (HCSF) is a community-based, multimodal, early childhood intervention that addresses childhood obesity. HCSF directly involves parents and primary caregivers of preschool-age American Indian children in making family-based healthy lifestyle changes.
- As a part of the broader Faculty Diversity Initiative, the Target of Opportunity Program provides departments with increased financial support from the central administration to pursue and hire outstanding individuals who will enhance a department's quality and diversity. To date, the Office of the Provost has approved 70 recruitment proposals from colleges and schools across campus and 32 faculty have been hired.
- The UW–Madison Public History Project works to uncover and give voice to the histories of discrimination and resistance on campus. In the past year, the History Corps, comprised of graduate and undergraduate student researchers, spent over 450 hours doing archival research, combing through 110 cubic feet of archival material. They also completed 91 oral history interviews with students, faculty, alumni, and administrators, collecting 164 hours of audio.
- The Precollege Enrichment Opportunity Program for Learning Excellence, or PEOPLE, is a precollege program designed for low-income and prospective first-generation college students. It works with students, families, teachers and counselors to provide the sustained individual attention critical for students to be prepared academically, psychologically, and culturally to succeed at college. The program has grown to over 1,300 students in the pipeline ranging from 8th graders to college seniors. Ninety-four percent of PEOPLE high school graduates enroll in higher education, and 253 students from the Milwaukee area alone have graduated from UW–Madison through the PEOPLE program.

Natural Spaces and Recreation

Recreation

- Recreation & Wellbeing (RecWell) oversees all recreational activities on campus including exercise facilities, intramural sports, sports clubs, youth programs, lessons, group activities and

more. RecWell has recently added wellness resources for all campus and community users.
- The Wisconsin Hoofers is the premier outdoors club at UW–Madison. Since 1931, Hoofers has been building a community by providing instruction and excellence in outdoor recreation. From sailing on nearby lakes to rock climbing around the state, Hoofers is a place where people of all abilities can learn outdoor skills and enjoy outdoor activities.
- Outdoor UW serves an outlet to the outdoors for the campus community. Outdoor UW provides outdoor recreation rentals, educational opportunities, and recreation experiences.

Multi-use Natural Spaces

UW–Madison uses its campus natural areas for both teaching and recreation. Campus natural areas include:

- The UW–Madison Arboretum is home to the oldest restored ecological communities in the world. The Arboretum was founded with the idea of re-establishing "original Wisconsin" by hosting all the native biomes of Wisconsin with recreation opportunities on more than 17 miles of trails through restored prairies, savannas, woodlands, and wetlands. The trail system offers visitors recreational, inspirational, and educational opportunities. The Arboretum serves as a place for learning and research not only for university students but for community members including K-12 students from around the state. The Arboretum accomplishes its mission of teaching, learning, and respite by hosting tours, science-based classes, and volunteer opportunities. The Arboretum was recently recognized as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park service for its pioneering work in restoration ecology, its place in the history of conservation, and its commitment to Aldo Leopold's land ethic.
- The Lakeshore Nature Preserve is a 300-acre natural area situated on the south shore of Lake Mendota on the university's main campus. It represents about one-third of the total acreage of the main campus and includes 4.3 miles of Lake Mendota shoreline. The preserve is home to a plethora of native plants and animals with abundant recreation trails throughout, including the Lakeshore Path, which extends the full 4.3 miles along the Lake Mendota shoreline. The preserve, like the Arboretum, functions as a space for learning, research, and recreation for campus and the community. The preserve serves thousands of campus and community users every year, with over 3,800 visitors in December of 2020 alone.

Workplace Health & Safety

The department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) oversees campus operations and procedures that protect the health and safety of all campus users. These operations include:

- Professional services, technical expertise, strong partnerships and regulatory oversight to all laboratories on campus. The Animal, Biological, Chemical, and Radiation safety groups support researchers in their areas of technical expertise, while the Environmental and Occupation Health group provides critical services to all personnel in the areas of occupational health and medicine.
- Services to help ensure workplace health and safety. The team provides oversight, assessments, and guidance for all work activities by providing resources for facilities safety, hazard communications, occupational health (ergonomics), occupational medicine, and personal protective equipment
- Guidance on how to dispose of excess materials and is responsible for the pick-up of surplus materials and hazardous waste. EHS provides resources for animal disposal, biological waste, chemical, radiation, medical equipment, and information regarding and spills.

UW–Madison is committed to complying with all local, state and federal air regulations aimed at protecting public health and the environment. EHS actively manages the operations included in the campus-wide air pollution control operation permit and water quality.

- Indoor air quality is monitored by the Environmental & Occupational Health (EOH) program. This program evaluates mold exposure, conducts air monitoring to evaluate chemical exposure health risks, and assesses engineering controls for proper ventilation design and performance.
- Outdoor air quality is monitored by fulfilling multiple Air Pollution Control Permits administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Both the Charter Street and Walnut Street Heating and Cooling Plants have been assigned individual permits to maintain acceptable air quality. Other activities across campus that could impact air quality are collectively grouped under a campus-wide pollution control permit. EHS actively manages the operations included in this permit by:
    - Overseeing equipment operations and maintenance to ensure appropriate procedures are followed and established pollution limitations are not exceeded
    - Facilitating emissions testing on equipment
    - Guaranteeing the proper training for operators
    - Regularly reporting performance to the WDNR on air quality standards
    - Evaluating all campus activities and operations for potential impact on air quality
- EHS also offers resources for campus users and the community to learn more about air quality and its potential impacts, including real-time air quality monitoring from state and federal resources and information on air regulations, policies, and public notices.
- EHS has developed a UW–Madison Pesticide Use Policy to reflect community standards, outline "best practices," and to comply with state and federal regulations concerning pesticide use. Through this policy, UW–Madison seeks to minimize pesticide exposure risks.
- Campus Health & Safety helps assure campus spaces are safe and healthy. EHS has state-delegated authority for food, lodging, pools, and youth camps.

Campus Planning & Maintenance

The Wisconsin Department of Administration recently adopted Sustainability Guidelines that enable state agencies to both prioritize their missions and incorporate sustainability within an integrated design framework. UW–Madison proposed and piloted these sustainability guidelines on two capital projects with the School of Veterinary Medicine and Division of Recreation and Wellbeing. The integrated design process enables a holistic approach to the built environment that addresses the typical concerns of energy and economic feasibility, as well as cascading benefits for public health, equity, accessibility, and the university's core function of learning and research.

COVID-19

UW–Madison researchers have been on the front lines of vaccine research since the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, collaborative campus efforts led to the creation of vital personal protective equipment including innovative face shields whose designs have remained without a patent to allow makers around the world to create the shields and protect lives. To address the unprecedented toll the pandemic has had on mental health, researchers at the Center for Healthy Minds created a curated well-being toolkit and resources. The UW–Madison Center for Global Health also offered a "COVID & Equity Webinar Series" for the campus community in 2020.

Pillar 3: Effective Environmental and Sustainability Education

UW–Madison offers over 9,000 courses, 200-plus undergraduate majors and certificates, and 250-plus master's, doctoral, and professional programs, led by 2000-plus world-renowned faculty. The majority of schools and colleges incorporate facets of environmental and sustainability education. UW–Madison is also home to a world-renowned research enterprise accounting for over a billion dollars every year. Finally, the university supports many educational opportunities that take place outside of the classroom, in the form of faculty, staff, student, and community engagement, events, and programs. The following section of this application will touch on noteworthy examples of effective environmental and sustainability education and research.

Academics

Interdisciplinary Learning: Institutes, Majors, Certificates, Programs, and Courses

- The Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies is host to interdisciplinary programs and research that help to solve today's most challenging environmental issues while training tomorrow's leaders and innovators. The institute was established in 1970 and renamed in 2002 for former Wisconsin governor and U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, the author of landmark environmental legislation and the founder of Earth Day. The Nelson Institute offers educational opportunities for undergraduates and graduates through degree programs and certificates and is home to four research centers. The Nelson Institute has seen a 70% increase in credit hours since 2012, and its programs served over 1,000 students during the Spring 2020 semester alone.
- The Environmental Studies Major offers a robust and interdisciplinary curriculum that spans all contemporary disciplines that touch upon the environment. The curriculum includes biological sciences, physical sciences, and social sciences, as well as humanities, history, health, and modern culture. The major must always be completed in tandem with a second major. This requirement is unique to the environmental studies major and allows undergraduates the opportunity to both broaden and deepen the focus of their other major with a perspective on the environment that spans a wide range of topics, and involves varying depths of application. The major includes experiential learning opportunities via the capstone course and the field requirement, and encourages global interaction through study or internships abroad. With numerous travel abroad possibilities and ongoing access to a large selection of extracurricular events, graduates have countless combinations available to them. The outcome is a solid academic foundation in the study of the environment and access to a network of multidisciplinary problem-solving colleagues. 539 student have graduated with this degree in the last five academic years.
- The Environmental Studies Certificate program offers a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to broaden their studies through interdisciplinary course work related to the environment. In this program students can learn about society's environmental challenges; study environmental science, policy, literature, art and philosophy; and take part in environmental research, fieldwork and case studies. 1,302 students have graduated with this certificate in the last five academic years.
- The Sustainability Certificate offers students the opportunity to pursue sustainability interests that complement their major(s). This certificate provides a breadth of perspective highly applicable to complex problems, such as those we face in our communities, in our workplaces, and in our personal lives. Nearly 200 students have enrolled in the certificate in the last five academic years.

- The Engineering for Energy Sustainability Certificate program from the College of Engineering offers undergraduate students a suite of courses addressing energy sustainability. The courses span across the engineering curriculum, with firm roots in real-world design and engineering practices. 155 students have graduated with this certificate in the last five academic years.
- The Community Environmental Scholars Program (CESP) is designed for students who want to link their passion for the environment with a commitment to the community. Community Environmental Scholars take a 1-credit seminar each semester that introduces them to local organizations, provides them with professional training, and gives them a place to discuss the links between environmental studies and community service. Since its inception in 2010, over 200 students have enrolled, including 38 non-traditional students, 26 students with a disability, 5 veterans, 102 first generation students, and 175 Wisconsin residents.
- The Sustainability Course Attribute was motivated by student interest and a student call for easy identification of coursework that relates to sustainability. Since it was created in 2020, 338 courses have received the provisional course attribute for sustainability. To be counted in the attribute, courses must include at least two learning outcomes that address sustainability and could address economic, social, or environmental topics (e.g., responsible production, reduced inequalities, or clean energy).

Research

As one of the world's top research universities, UW–Madison produced the most climate change research of any midwestern university from 2014–2018 and generated over $459 million in funding for sustainability-related research in fiscal year 2020. A number of environment- and sustainability-related centers, initiatives, and institutes involve students, faculty, staff in this research enterprise:

- The Center for Climatic Research (CCR) brings together leading climate scientists with researchers in geography, botany, oceanography, and other disciplines to investigate past, present, and future climate and their implications for 21st century climate change. CCR connects with units across UW–Madison as well as U.S. and international universities and research institutes. The faculty, scientists, and students are based in departments such as Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Botany, Geography, and Geosciences. The Center continues to build on their traditional excellence in the earth system science, while rapidly growing capacity to assess the impact of 21st-century climate change on natural and social systems. Their partnership with the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) offers a model example of how university researchers can engage with decision-makers in the public and private sectors. Since it was founded, CCR faculty and staff have published over 1,000 scientific articles.
- The Center for Culture, History and Environment (CHE) draws together faculty, research staff, graduate students, and others—from a variety of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences—at UW–Madison and beyond. CHE advances multidisciplinary environmental research and learning by fostering collaborations among disciplinary communities; sponsoring a unique array of initiatives, projects, and events; and supporting the work of CHE Faculty, Graduate, and Community Associates. CHE also publishes the digital magazine *Edge Effects*, which reached over 372,000 readers from 2019-2020.
- The Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment (SAGE) examines the connections between natural resources, technology, policy, human health, security, and changes in the global environment. SAGE staff and students conduct cutting-edge research on these critical problems and disseminate that knowledge through innovative teaching and outreach. The Center leans on

the notion that to find effective solutions, we need to understand the changing relationships between human actions and Earth's complex environmental systems. This requires interdisciplinary research that forges new links between traditional scientific fields. Positive change also requires integration of the latest science into real-world decision-making and public policy, with the ultimate goal of sustainably managing our planet's natural resources.

- The Center for Limnology (CFL) focuses on freshwaters of the state, including the Great Lakes and inland lakes and rivers. Moreover, the CFL plays a significant leadership role in freshwater research around the world. CFL's research portfolio addresses significant applied questions about fisheries, invasive species, climate change, pollutants, harmful algal blooms, and other societally relevant issues related to freshwater. This work is often of interest to decision makers, mission agencies and the general public. Outreach, communication and public education about freshwater resources are increasingly vital components of its program.
- Wisconsin Center for Ecology & Environment (CEE): The Nelson institute recently charged a new research center in an effort to bring together ecology experts from across 23 academic units under one roof. Home to some of the first studies of ecology, UW–Madison formed the first department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology in the nation under the leadership of Aldo Leopold.
- The Wisconsin Energy Institute (WEI) is led by scientists and engineers committed to crossing traditional research boundaries in order to make major breakthroughs in the way society sources and uses energy. The collaborative home of energy research and education on campus, WEI fosters projects across disciplines, prepares the energy leaders of today and tomorrow, and enhances public understanding of energy issues. One of these key energy issues is energy and climate justice. In WEI's new Energy and Climate Justice space, they explore the associations between racial, economic, and environmental justice in order to educate both UW–Madison and the community on these topics—and to inform research and outreach.
- The Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) is a statewide collaboration of scientists and stakeholders formed as a partnership between UW–Madison's Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. WICCI's goals are to evaluate climate change impacts on Wisconsin and foster solutions. WICCI working groups conduct science-based assessments of climate change impacts on specific regions, ecosystems, communities, and industries in Wisconsin and foster solutions and adaptation strategies. Each group is made up of scientists, experts, and practitioners who contribute to WICCI's thematic breadth of air, land, water, and people. Working groups include Agriculture, Climate, Coastal Resilience, Community Sustainability, Fisheries, Forestry, Great Lakes, Human Health, Infrastructure, Plant and Natural communities, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation, Water Resources, and Wildlife. WICCI has also been contracted by the Wisconsin Governor's Climate Change Task Force to supply climate modeling and other data to inform Wisconsin's forthcoming Climate Action Plan.

Faculty Recruitment

- In 1998, UW–Madison launched the Cluster Hire Program, a first-of-its-kind hiring initiative in higher education that is now duplicated worldwide. This effort is designed to foster collaborative research, education and outreach by creating new interdisciplinary areas of knowledge that cross the boundaries of existing academic departments. Several clusters have addressed sustainability and environmental education, including Land Use, International Environmental Affairs and Global Security; Agroecology, Disability Studies, Energy Sources and Policy; The Emerging Polar Regions; Freshwater Sustainability; Native American Environment, Health, and

Community; and many more.

Student Engagement

Student Organizations

UW–Madison is host to a wide range of sustainability-related student organizations. The following is a selected list:

- The ASM Sustainability Committee is one of the five open committees of the Associated Students of Madison (ASM) that focuses on environmental sustainability at UW–Madison. The Sustainability Committee identifies pressing environmental issues on campus and organizes grassroots campaigns to promote sustainable solutions. The committee also coordinates with other open committees, such as the Legislative Affairs and Equity and Inclusion Committee, to work on environmental policy and environmental justice issues. Committee members work together in teams on semester-long campaigns relating to environmental education, compost, water, energy, plastics, and more.
- Campus Leaders for Energy Action Now (CLEAN) consists of passionate and dedicated students from different backgrounds and majors who wish to transition the university away from fossil fuel-dependent energy. CLEAN does this through shared governance action, collaborating with campus leaders including the campus planning committee, and maintaining mutually beneficial relationships with other students and community groups.
- The Ethical and Responsible Business Network (ERBN) focuses on educating students and businesses on the ways sustainability and profitability go hand in hand, providing hands-on experience in real-life business planning, and instilling the knowledge, skills, and commitment to be an ethical and responsible business leader. Activities include speaker events, discussion forums, service events, social opportunities, and workshops. In addition, ERBN consults local businesses in promoting their Triple Bottom Line.
- HELIOS has two primary goals: to implement more sustainable infrastructure at UW–Madison and to educate their fellow students and community members on the importance of a sustainable future. HELIOS has been instrumental in expanding campus solar energy with projects at Gordon Dining Hall and most recently the Arboretum Visitor Center. These two projects will generate around 75,000 kWh of renewable energy annually and save the university around $5,000 in utility costs.
- Social and Environmental Business Advocates (SEBA) believes that businesses have an important role to play in working towards social and environmental justice in our communities. SEBA seeks to engage the student body of the Wisconsin School of Business in order to create conversations about the culture of the business world.

Experiential Learning

- The UW–Madison Green Fund offers financial and administrative support for student-initiated projects that address the environmental footprint, social impact, and operating costs of campus facilities. Students drive the project development process: they identify potential projects, meet with building managers and tradespeople to refine the project scope, run impact calculations, write funding proposals, and work with communicators to share project outcomes. Meanwhile, Green Fund staff walk with students through the process, facilitating connections, offering feedback, and helping the students navigate university systems. Recent Green Fund projects include a rooftop solar photovoltaic array that will produce over 32,000 kWh of electricity per

year, a window glazing project aimed at mitigating bird strikes, and a lighting retrofit in Science Hall that will save the space around $2,800 in utility costs and 60 US tons of carbon.

- Established in Fall 2020, the Sustainability Advisory Council (SAC) will develop prioritized recommendations for the Provost and the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration on how to advance sustainability at UW–Madison in the coming decades. The SAC is comprised of 13 members, including three UW–Madison students. Thanks to direct advocacy by student groups, there is also a student subcommittee, which provides feedback on the outcomes of SAC meetings, supports SAC student members, and works to engage additional students in the process of the SAC. Recommendations from the SAC will align with the university's mission, current campus strategic plans, the 2010 Sustainability Initiative Task Force Report, the Second Nature Resilience Commitment, and UW–Madison's legacy of resource stewardship.

Student Events

- The Office of Sustainability and University Housing team up annually to host Sustain-a-Bash, an outdoor expo featuring dozens of sustainability-related student organizations, university departments and units, and local businesses. In 2020, the event was held virtually over a week; topics included conscious consumerism, amplifying BIPOC voices, energy, and water.
- Since 2018, the Office of Sustainability (OS) has hosted a variety of events during the week of Earth Day, capped by the Nelson Institute's Earth Day Conference. OS interns and student organizations lead these events, which range from workshops and panel discussions to crafting and repair tutorials. In 2020, Earth Week went virtual; events included a film screening and discussion on indigenous rights, DIY video tutorials, Earth Week trivia, and a podcast on conscious consumerism. More than 3,000 participants joined UW–Madison for Earth Week programming in 2020.

Residential and Campus Life

University Housing makes sustainability central to its mission of serving undergraduates across campus. Focusing on energy conservation, sustainable operations, water conservation, food, engagement, and waste reduction, University Housing pursues a number of different initiatives, including:

- In collaboration with 12 campus and community partners, University Housing organizes Sustainability Move Out each spring, which diverts waste from the landfill, educates event participants, and supports the goals of donation partners. In 2019, the program diverted over 126,000lbs of material from the landfill, including nearly 4,000lbs of food, 64,000lbs of donations, and over 1,000lbs of electronics.
- UW–Madison learning communities are residential spaces that bring together faculty, staff, and students around a specific focus. Several learning communities at UW–Madison address sustainability topics, including Biohouse (biology), Greenhouse (sustainability), Open House (gender and sexuality), and WISE (women in science & engineering).
- The Office of Inclusion Education (OIE) was formed in August 2020 to elevate and prioritize diversity, equity and inclusion for all students at UW–Madison. Part of Student Affairs, OIE seeks to foster social justice in order to create a place where all Badgers feel like they belong. It includes Our Wisconsin, Social Justice Programs, and Social Justice Hubs.

Professional Development

The Office of Sustainability student intern program offers undergraduates the opportunity to raise awareness of sustainable practices, influence consumer behavior, and train partners across campus. Interns work closely with campus offices, departments, and auxiliary units like University Housing and the Wisconsin Union. Students gain concrete knowledge of sustainability solutions as well as professional development training in an upbeat, collaborative environment. Interns can be a part of numerous teams that serve as campus sustainability liaisons. These teams include:

- The Communications team creates social media and website content, contributes articles to the Office of Sustainability newsletter, and organizes Earth Week events.
- The Podcast team hosts, edits, and publishes the SustainUW Podcast, which launched in 2020.
- The Green Athletics team works collaboratively with UW–Madison Athletics Department to address sustainability in athletic facilities, operations, and events.
- The Green Events team advises campus partners on improving the sustainability of their events. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the team consulted on 12 events including the University of Wisconsin System's annual sustainability conference.
- The Green Greeks team seeks to establish and support efforts within the Greek Life community that improve environmental, social, and economic sustainability.
- The Green Labs team helps all laboratories on campus, whether research or teaching, to become more sustainable. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the team certified the USDA Breeding and Genetics lab, the Research Animal Resources and Compliance Lab, and the Simulated Nursing Lab.
- The Green Office Certification Program provides resources for UW–Madison employees to learn how and why to integrate sustainability into their workplaces. During the 2019-2020 school year, the team worked with 60 offices across campus.
- The Social Sustainability Coalition seeks to build collaborative partnerships that support a culture of equity and inclusion aligned with the three pillars of sustainability: social, economic, and environmental. In 2020, it launched the *Amplifying BIPOC Voices in Sustainability* series.

The Office of Sustainability intern program has also achieved widespread recognition by presenting at international conferences and being featured in *Sustainability: The Journal of Record*.

Faculty, Staff & Community Engagement

- The Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies hosts a variety of campus- and community-facing events every year, including their annual Earth Day Conference. During academic year 2019-2020, Nelson events drew over 6,000 participants.
- The Sustainability Community of Practice (CoP) is a space for staff and faculty to discuss ideas, concerns, successes, frustrations, and lessons about sustainability on campus and in their personal lives. To date, the Sustainability CoP has discussed energy systems and opportunities for expanding renewable energy, learned about effective resource management in waste, recycling, and procurement, and explored healthy and sustainable food access for campus users.
- The Women in Science & Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI) seeks to increase the representation, advancement, and workplace satisfaction of women faculty and members of groups currently underrepresented on the faculty and in leadership. WISELI serves as a visible, campus-wide research center, endorsed by top-level administrators, that uses UW–Madison as a "living laboratory" to study gender equity, diversity, and climate; implement evidence-based solutions; and measure success. The institute engages campus and the community by hosting

workshops at UW–Madison covering topics such as bias training, expanding faculty diversity, and enhancing department climate. They also offer the bias training and faculty diversification workshops for institutions across the U.S. Additionally, WISELI hosts guests lectures for campus and community audiences covering topics ranging from equity in the workplace to diversifying the STEM field.

- The Morgridge Center for Public Service connects UW–Madison students, staff, and faculty to local and global communities to build partnerships and solve critical issues through service and learning. For example, the Badger Volunteers Program pairs UW–Madison students with over 90 community partners (schools, nonprofits, municipalities) for volunteer opportunities that focus on either education, sustainability, or public health. Work through the Badger Volunteers Program as well as other initiatives across the university resulted in over 550,000 hours of community service during the 2018-2019 academic year.
- The South Madison Partnership (SMP) is an initiative designed to meet the South Madison community's needs and foster mutually beneficial relationships. SMP partners with 22 community organizations and works with UW–Madison campus partners across eight schools and colleges, five divisions and two institutes, in addition to the Division of Extension. Programming at the SMP includes the UW–Madison Odyssey Project, which takes a whole-family approach to breaking the cycle of generational poverty through access to education, giving adult and youth learners a voice, and increasing confidence through reading, writing, and speaking. In Odyssey, adults living near the poverty level are offered a chance to start college for free by taking a six-credit, two-semester English literature course in South Madison. UW–Madison faculty members introduce students to great works of literature, philosophy, history, and art and help them improve skills in writing and critical thinking. This project has empowered more than 500 low-income adults. Graduates of the program have journeyed from homelessness to UW–Madison degrees, or from incarceration to meaningful work in the community. The SMP also hosts the Neighborhood Law Clinic, which provides a range of legal and advocacy services to low-income community members.