Dear Colleagues and Friends:

This past academic year marked my 10th year as dean of students at UW–Madison. I continue to be grateful to work with incredible students, staff, and faculty each day. Although many things have changed since I started my time on campus, one thing remains the same: the passion to create an inclusive and welcoming campus, where all students feel at home. Read about the 10-year journey online at students.wisc.edu/blog/looking-back-after-10-years.

In May, the Multicultural Student Center’s Black Cultural Center (BCC) officially opened its doors. The center exists to acknowledge the specific and particular realities of Black students at the UW, while also fostering a sense of belonging.

After its successful inaugural year, the Our Wisconsin inclusion program will expand for the 2017–18 academic year. The program held 59 workshops for some 1,000 undergraduate students, receiving an overwhelmingly positive response from both participants and facilitators. The expanded program will be available to all incoming students beginning this fall.

The Division of Student Life always seeks to increase the UW’s capacity to educate and support students through sustained partnerships. One example is the new partnership between the division and UW Libraries for Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR). The advising component of SOAR now has a permanent home—and 40,000 square feet of space—in College Library. With this new space, SOAR advisors can better provide individualized support for incoming students as they enroll in courses for the fall semester.

The division’s focus for the 2017–18 academic year is to increase student resiliency through initiatives that teach well-being and self-advocacy skills. I believe that resiliency is a skill critical for success in college and life, and as a division, we have always supported involvement that challenges students to move beyond their intellectual and developmental comfort zones.

During the spring and summer, I began treatment for a cancer diagnosis, which has reminded me of the importance of resiliency in our everyday lives. I’m more committed than ever to support students as they continue their journeys to become successful Badgers and push through adversities to find their passions at the UW.

I invite you to review and help celebrate our division’s successes from the 2016–17 academic year. I look forward to what the next 10 years at UW–Madison will bring, and I thank you for your collaboration and partnership along the way.

On, Wisconsin!

Lori M. Berquam
Vice Provost for the Division of Student Life and Dean of Students
Lori Berquam, vice provost for student life and dean of students, welcomes incoming first-year students to campus during Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR).
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Last year, working with campus partners, ASM led a successful campaign to inform the campus community of changes to voter ID laws for elections. ASM worked closely with the City of Madison Clerk’s Office and the League of Women Voters to help register more than 5,000 voters. In addition, ASM members organized three weeks of early voting in the UW’s Student Activity Center.

ASM also organized students to engage with the state budget process, and facilitated dozens of meetings with elected officials, providing students valuable real-world experiences in civic engagement.

ASM organized the second “New People, New Voices” conference, where more than 90 attendees learned about campus resources that can help UW students expand their organizations and Wisconsin Experience. Students also participated in practical workshops on funding, organizing, and outreach.

Finally, ASM increased its capacity in supporting students in need through The Open Seat food pantry, whose number of users doubled from the previous year. More than 200 students have used the pantry, which strives to alleviate the stresses of food insecurity for those in need. The entire UW–Madison campus has offered support to this program, setting up 22 donation bins across campus and hosting various food drives. Thousands of pounds of food have been distributed, including fresh produce and bread.

“Being able to translate my passion for civic engagement into a job was one of the highlights of my Wisconsin Experience. Registering students to vote and arranging early voting opportunities [were] direct way[s] to mobilize students in our democratic process, and to have our voices heard in the government that is supposed to represent us.”

Billy Welsh, Junior
Students fill out ballots on Election Day 2016. ASM helped to register more than 5,000 voters and organized three weeks of early voting.
A CFYE new-student leader (at left) holds a small-group discussion with incoming students during SOAR at Union South.
Center for the First-Year Experience (CFYE)

CFYE is the campus leader and primary resource for undergraduate student transition to UW–Madison. The office works to understand and improve a student’s first year at UW–Madison, while educating faculty and staff on ways to connect with new students. The office oversees orientation for new students (SOAR: Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration); Wisconsin Welcome events; first-year seminars; and the Transfer Transition Program.

Last year, CFYE helped more than 7,400 new freshman and transfer students transition to UW–Madison through ongoing programming and sustained partnerships with campus staff and faculty. In turn, campus partners have become more knowledgeable and better equipped to support first-year students as they transition to campus.

A notable example of this collaboration is the Wisconsin Experience Seminar (Counseling Psychology [CP] 125). Last year, 22 instructors from across campus taught individual sections of CP 125. In addition to their instruction, they participated in ongoing training and professional development and mentored the undergraduate teaching fellows with whom they co-taught.

In turn, these instructors gained direct insight into the experiences of first-year students, enhancing their proficiency in working with this population in their primary campus roles (as academic advisors, librarians, student services coordinators, and the like). Last year, 100 percent of CP 125 instructors responded that teaching the course was a valuable experience, and a record number of instructors expressed interest in teaching again in fall 2017.

“My experience as a CFYE intern has allowed me countless opportunities for personal growth. Learning to take initiative and present my ideas in an environment so open to change has helped me be more confident in speaking up and giving my unique perspective.”

Darby Hoffman, Junior

22.6% enrollment increase for CP 125
40,000 sq ft of new space allotted for SOAR advising through a partnership with UW Libraries
320 appointments with prospective and admitted transfer students
CfLI encourages students to be part of a community that looks out for each other. Over the past year, the department worked with University Health Services (UHS) to enroll student organization members—including new fraternity and sorority members—in both Badgers Step Up!, an alcohol bystander intervention training program, and Green Dot, a gender-based violence prevention program.

In conjunction with multiple schools, colleges, and programs, leadership competency was closely examined through the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership. This national leadership study measures how UW–Madison students are exhibiting leadership skills—comparing metrics across schools and colleges on campus—and then benchmarks the results against other peer institutions.

CfLI began a new partnership with the School of Pharmacy to expand the UW–Madison Leadership Certificate Program and integrate the UW–Madison Leadership Framework into the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Program. Together, CfLI and the school customized the existing Leadership Certificate Program structure—adding a professional mentoring component—to establish the Leadership Certificate Program, PharmD Emphasis.

“My best experiences with CfLI [have] often been my most difficult challenges, as they have molded me into a more responsible and well-rounded student. These experiences made me more confident and willing to take on new roles and positions within the university. CfLI made me a leader. It has truly been an invaluable experience.”

Joey Lynn Zawacki, Senior
Thousands of students explore their options at the CfLI-sponsored Student Organization Fair, held at the Kohl Center.
Students relax and study on Bascom Hill in the fall. DoSO provides drop-in service atop the hill in Bascom Hall.
Last year, UW–Madison’s bias response and advocacy process came under the umbrella of DoSO, which hired a dedicated coordinator to assist and support students in reporting and addressing incidents of bias. The coordinator facilitated restorative justice–based group conversations as a response to incidents of bias on campus. Additionally, the coordinator conducted eight trainings for student organizations, staff divisions/departments, and academic departments/programs, while also holding drop-in hours at the Multicultural Student Center to provide further support and visibility.

DoSO also hosted the Big Ten Conference’s first-ever student assistance seminar. The three-day program brought together student service professionals from nine other institutions. Sessions covered student concern protocols, wellness check protocols, Title IX assistance, and more.

In May, the office held the annual student memorial program, which honors UW students who passed away during the previous summer and academic year. For the first time, the event was held in Storyteller’s Circle at Muir Knoll to create a more intimate setting for family and friends. It was clear that each of the 16 students has left a lasting impact on their friends and families, as well as the university.

“Words [can’t] express what being a student at [the] UW has meant to me this year. Pieces of me wanted nothing more than to sit this semester out and just enjoy being Miss Wisconsin USA, but [DoSO] helped me stay focused and create a plan to have a successful year. I am so thankful to attend a university that believes in their students ... scholastically and beyond.”

Skylar Witte, Sophomore
During the 2016–17 academic year, ISS provided student-centered advising and support to more than 6,000 international students and continued to focus on assessing and managing immigration processes to improve efficiencies. The office aims to build on that progress, further streamlining processes and building staff members’ knowledge. ISS continues to ensure that all international students have information they need in order to remain compliant, knowledgeable of options, and prepared to engage in their academic pursuits.

Programs that ISS implemented this year include the Alumni Mentoring: Career Connections networking session and the Ask an Alum panel series. For these programs, ISS brought alumni to campus from the National Institutes of Health, United Nations, Intel Corporation, Windhaven Insurance Company, Audible Inc., and the UW–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health’s Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. Both programs allowed current international students to learn from the experiences, advice, and perspectives of international alumni who have pursued the challenging process of seeking employment in the United States.

Additionally, ISS responded to national and local events in order to provide support spaces, community gatherings, and education to ensure that all international students felt welcome, safe, and successful while at UW–Madison.

“I have been a part of [the] International Reach Cross-Cultural Speakers Program throughout my four years of college, [and it] has become a family to me in Madison. I have learned so much and grew a lot through this program. I am thankful for this opportunity.”

Syaza Nazura binti Noor Azmi, Senior
Student Vincentius Sebastian Utama submitted this scenic, UW-spirited picture, taken on the bluffs of Devil’s Lake, for the 2017 ISS Photo Contest.

Courtesy of Vincentius Sebastian Utama/ISS
Class of 2017 graduates and their supporters celebrate Rainbow Graduation, hosted by the LGBT CC each May.

Courtesy of the LGBT CC
The LGBT CC had a successful year supporting LGBTQ+ students and their allies through new and updated programming. This year’s bookends—the Ice Cream Social Resource Fair in September and the Rainbow Graduation event in May—framed a full year of student activism, advocacy, and educational programming.

Programs were bolstered and expanded: the Trans Monologues event exceeded 200 attendees in the local Bartell Theater, the annual SQUAD retreat engaged students from three UW campuses on topics of resiliency and community connections, and the Queer Sobriety and More support group was founded.

Sustained partnerships across campus helped extend the reach of the LGBT CC and its ability to support LGBTQ+ students. The center maintained important synergies with University Health Services (UHS) to increase campus’s capacity and competency regarding transgender health issues. LGBT CC professional staff held 60 trainings and workshops, with topics ranging from inclusion in the classroom, to transgender health, to social justice identity development. During the 2017–18 academic year, the LGBT CC will celebrate its 25th anniversary of serving the UW–Madison LGBTQ+ community.

“The [LGBT] CC was ... a place where I could just be myself without judgment. ... I’ve been involved in [the Queer Emerging Leaders Program], the Mentor Program, and annual retreats. These programs have confirmed my strengths, allowing me to hone my specific skill set in order to become a leader in my community [and] workplace, and lead a more mindful personal life.”

Rebecca Tillman, Senior
The McBurney Disability Resource Center currently serves more than 1,600 registered students (undergraduate, special, graduate, and professional school), the majority of whom have nonapparent disabilities such as mental health disorders, learning disabilities, and chronic medical conditions.

Last year, the center launched the McBurney Ambassador Program, which matches interested first-year students with a current UW–Madison student with a disability as a peer mentor. Mentors provide an additional layer of support for new students during their time of transition by answering questions, connecting them to resources, and providing opportunities for social interaction.

In a new collaboration with the Office of Legal Affairs, the center also offers an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) Disability Accommodation Form.

Peer education on disability issues, identity, and inclusive practices continues to be offered through the McBurney Speaker’s Bureau. The bureau is composed of students whose lives have been affected by disabilities. More students have been willing to share their stories, which provides an important window into the daily life experiences of a college student with a disability.

“One of my favorite parts of working at McBurney is getting to know the wonderful people who provide Captioning/Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) services to individuals like me.”
Alyssa Wciorka, Junior

**McBurney Disability Resource Center**

*The McBurney Disability Resource Center promotes an accessible, open, and welcoming campus for all people with disabilities. The center is built around four core program components: classroom accommodations, adaptive technology services, deaf and hard-of-hearing services, and transition services.*

- **1,900** students registered for services
- **2x** number of attendees at McBurney Orientation and Services Training (MOST) over last 4 years
- **160+** students served by the Study and Learning Skills Program (SLSS)
Captioning/Communication Access
Realtime Translation (CART) services
caption a lecture.

Courtesy of McBurney Disability Resource Center
Staff member Hazel Symonette (right) and student Marquise Mays cross arms during a dedication ceremony at the MSC’s newly opened Black Cultural Center.
The MSC supported the lives and experiences of students of color and their allies last year by forming partnerships and collaborations across the university to connect students with important resources and with each other. MSC staff members worked throughout the year to promote engagement in social justice. Efforts included community-building programs such as A Place at the Table, a communal meal held several times each semester; peer-led discussion groups, including Tu Voz (intended for Latinx/Chicanx students) and Ubuntu (intended for Black/African American students); and guest speakers, including Imam Daayiee Abdullah.

Complemented by for-credit courses in Counseling Psychology and Civil Society and Community Studies, MSC staff members led more than 95 hours of social justice workshops. The center also proved to be an active learning and collaborative space for students individually and in groups. The MSC launched a new set of services and programs with the May opening of the Black Cultural Center, located in Red Gym. More than 750 members of the campus community helped welcome and open the new space, where people can learn about and engage with the rich history of Black Badgers at UW–Madison.

“The Multicultural Student Center [has been] my lifeline throughout my time at UW–Madison. The warm staff; open study and lounging areas; supportive peers; and numerous events ... have been vital resources to my life as a student. Each day I enter the space, I feel overwhelmingly welcome and know I can always find love in such a beautiful space.”

Janiece Piolet, Junior

1,185 attendees at Multicultural Wisconsin Welcome Programs

95 hours of social justice workshops facilitated by MSC staff, with 2,220 participants

13,372 visitors to MSC space
In spring 2017, OSCCS introduced Badgers AIM (Academic Integrity Matters), a restorative program that allows students who accept responsibility for academic misconduct to repair harm and rebuild trust. Badgers AIM brings faculty/staff members together with students who committed misconduct to have a productive dialogue about the factors that led to the decision to engage in misconduct, and how the students plan to repair harm caused by their actions. In its first semester, more than 20 faculty/staff members and 33 students participated in the program.

The office is currently developing a pathway of restorative resolution for both conduct- and nonconduct-related conflicts. This pathway will be available for bias incidents and is intended to elicit a student’s personal sense of responsibility to engage with the community and repair harm from actions that have caused conflict.

Finally, OSCCS continued the Badger RED (Responsible and Ethical Decision-Making) program for students found responsible for nonacademic misconduct. Co-sponsored by the Division of University Housing, the workshop employs healing practices by encouraging students to reflect on their values and goals and apply their ethics to future decision-making. The workshop encompasses both individual reflection and group participation.

“The nonacademic and academic misconduct panels have provided me experience that I never thought I would gain, and have opened my eyes to all types of experiences students have on campus.”

Allison Ebben, Senior

Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS)

OSCCS upholds every student’s right to learn in a community that is safe and fosters integrity and accountability. The office addresses student misconduct through an educational, restorative approach, guiding student behavior for the common good while respecting the rights and responsibilities of all members of the UW community.

45% decline in campus incident rates for alcohol misuse compared to 2013–14

52% decline in incidents occurring in residence halls compared to 2013–14
Previously part of the Dean of Students Office, OSCCS was established as a new department in fall 2016 to focus on student misconduct.
Divisional Programs

Our Wisconsin

Launched as a pilot in fall 2016 and expanding in fall 2017, Our Wisconsin is an inclusion and development program that aims to improve campus climate and build a community where all students are welcomed, valued, and supported as they live the Wisconsin Experience.

In its pilot year, the Our Wisconsin inclusion program received strongly positive feedback from its participants. Our Wisconsin’s workshops utilized structured dialogue, interactive activities, and reflection to increase students’ understanding of culture, identity, and social differences, as well as the skills and commitment to promote a sense of community that is inclusive for all its members.

Assessment findings indicate that the workshops increased participants’ awareness of how their identities—and the identities of others— Influence their experiences on campus, and spurred them to have more conversations with others about diversity issues. Additionally, survey data indicate that the workshops spurred changes in both participants’ attitudes and behaviors.

Finally, through open-ended survey responses, participants frequently expressed appreciation for the interactive nature of the workshops, the inclusive and open discussions, and the opportunity to bond with other students living on their residence hall floors. Some participants also specifically used the term “eye-opening” to describe the program, and said the workshops increased their awareness of the different experiences of others on campus.

The expanded Our Wisconsin program will be available to all incoming students beginning fall 2017.
Veteran Services and Military Assistance Center (VSMAC)

VSMAC is a centralized campus resource that helps student veterans and service members navigate their educational benefits and acclimate to the UW.

Last year, VSMAC hosted the three-day Big Ten Academic Alliance Veteran Services Conference. Representatives from each Big Ten school shared best practices and received key updates from senior veterans administration officials. The theme of the conference centered on post-graduation employment, and several major employers presented on their hiring practices and efforts to engage veterans.

VSMAC also held employer–veteran networking receptions in the fall and spring semesters, with more than 40 employers seeking UW student veterans in attendance.

700+ UW students using veteran or military educational benefits (up from 90 students in 2008)

40+ employers attended networking receptions

14 UW students paused their studies for military training and deployments

American flags are displayed on Bascom Hill by VSMAC and the student-veteran organization VETS on an anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.
Wisconsin Experience

Last year, we refined the definition of the Wisconsin Experience to better reflect our vision for the total student experience at UW–Madison, which combines learning in and out of the classroom. We want students to engage in diverse areas of intellectual and personal growth that will prepare them to fully live the Wisconsin Idea after graduation. And we want to communicate these values in a concise, effective way.

The refreshed Wisconsin Experience describes how undergraduate and graduate students develop and integrate four core concepts: empathy and humility, intellectual confidence, relentless curiosity, and purposeful action.

Vice Provost for the Division of Student Life and Dean of Students Lori Berquam and Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning Steve Cramer met with hundreds of campus partners to capture the true meaning of the Wisconsin Experience, and they continue to engage with students, faculty, and staff to ensure that components of the Wisconsin Experience are reflected throughout campus. In partnership with University Marketing, a campuswide campaign is set to launch in the 2017–18 academic year.

Wisconsin Experience

**EMPATHY AND HUMILITY**
Develop and demonstrate cultural understanding of self and others
Engage locally, nationally, and globally in a respectful and civil manner
Appreciate and celebrate one another’s abilities, views, and accomplishments

**INTELLECTUAL CONFIDENCE**
Develop competence, depth, and expertise in a field of study
Integrate ideas and synthesize knowledge across multiple contexts
Exercise critical thinking and effective communication

**RELENTLESS CURIOSITY**
Actively learn with expert instructors, scholars, and peers
Engage in creative inquiry, scholarship, and research
Develop resilience, and foster courage in life and learning

**PURPOSEFUL ACTION**
Apply knowledge and skills to solve problems
Engage in public service, partner with others, and contribute to community
Lead for positive change
Thank You to Our Financial Supporters (July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017)

We are grateful to all who have given to the Division of Student Life. Together, we can make a difference.