STEM Innovation Center Groundbreaking

On September 17, 2018, UW-Green Bay, and its many partners broke ground on the new Brown County STEM Innovation Center that will live on the UW-Green Bay campus and house the Richard J. Resch School of Engineering, the Einstein Project, UW-Extension and Brown County’s Land and Water Conservation departments. Turning the soil together were Governor Scott Walker, Brown County Executive Troy Streckenbach, UW-Green Bay Chancellor Gary L. Miller and Einstein Project CEO Kelly Ellis. Joining in the festivities were UW-Green Bay’s many community partners, including Dick Resch, members of the Kress Family, WPS, UW-Green Bay science and engineering faculty and others. Together, these stakeholders exemplify the powerful transformation enabled by collaborative education, community, and business partnerships.

Consortium of Applied Research (CAR) at UW-Green Bay

The Consortium of Applied Research (CAR), created in 2018 within UW-Green Bay’s Psychology Department, supports local businesses, non-profits, community organizations, and educational entities by translating research into practical solutions. Through the collection, use, and dissemination of qualitative and quantitative data, the CAR provides objective consultation to help organizations make informed decisions and measure impacts of programs and initiatives.

The Consortium of Applied Research currently has a $225,000 yearly contract with the Department of Public Instruction, as well as ongoing contracts with local school districts and local non-profits. The CAR created two new positions at UW-Green Bay that support the work with the Department of Public Instruction. The Consortium’s mission is to help community-based organizations collect and interpret high-quality data, collaborate on grant writing initiatives, and inform policy and decision making, and plans to continue expansion of services in future years.

National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) Award of Excellence

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Division of Continuing Education and Community Engagement was honored with the Award of Excellence at the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) 2018 Licensing Conference held in Virginia. The university was recognized for the development of an innovative online Wisconsin Community Based Residential Facilities (CBRF) Training Registry in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Through this unique partnership with the Wisconsin Department Health Services, the UW-Green Bay significantly increased job growth and career opportunities for over 150,000
assisted living professionals in the State of Wisconsin. The Wisconsin CBRF Training Registry serves as the sole verification for assisted living professionals who have successfully completed state required courses in accordance with the Wisconsin Administrative Code, DHS 83.

GenCyber National Security Agency (NSA) & National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant

In 2018, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay was awarded a $64,000 grant from the National Security Agency (NSA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), to develop and host a cybersecurity camp for teachers and educators throughout Wisconsin. The vision of the GenCyber program is to be part of the solution to the Nation's shortfall of skilled cybersecurity professionals. Cybersecurity is vital to the future of the United States, not just at the federal and State government level, but also the military, private industry, nonprofits, and for individuals for their personal assets.

Through this grant, UW-Green Bay supports industries such as financial, transportation, water, power, and others critical to the safety and well-being of U.S. citizens. Ensuring that enough young people are inspired to direct their talents in this area is critical to the future of our country’s national and economic security as we become even more reliant on cyber-based technology in every aspect of our daily lives. The supply of cybersecurity professionals has fallen far short of demand, with some studies estimating the gap being as large as 600,000 professionals needed to meet the Nations demand. Some predict by 2021, there will be 3.5 million unfilled jobs in cybersecurity.

Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Program

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay’s, Continuing Professional Education (CPE) program provides effective training opportunities, state licensure programming and customized certificates that offer continuing education credit hours and credentialing for businesses, organizations and health and human services professionals.

In 2018, UW-Green Bay’s Continuing Professional Education program provided training opportunities for approximately 1,920 professionals and practitioners throughout the State of Wisconsin. Upskilling provides increased career opportunities for a variety of learners who are looking to progress in an organization, those who need some type of credentialing, and those who are interested in moving into a new career path.

UW-Green Bay’s Clerks and Treasurers Institute

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay’s Clerks and Treasurers Institute has direct impact on the quality of government in Wisconsin. Many local governments mandate that their clerks and treasurers attend the university’s three-year training program. In 2018, 325 clerks and treasurers attended the institute. The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay is the only certified provider and generates over $550,000 in economic impact for Green Bay. UW-Green Bay also delivered trainings for approximately 1,300 municipal and county officials and offers eleven certificate programs with over 700 government official attending.

UW-Green Bay has robust collaborative partnerships with the Wisconsin County Clerks of Circuit Court, Wisconsin County Constitutional Officers, Wisconsin County Treasurers Association, Wisconsin Government Financial Officers Association, Wisconsin County Clerks Association, Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association, Municipal Treasurers Association of

**College Credit in High School and TurboCharge Partnership**

The UW-Green Bay College Credit in High School (CCIHS) program partnered with over 50 Wisconsin school districts to offer college credit courses to high school students. Partner districts work with UW-Green Bay to create pathways for students in areas such as business, education and communication. These pathways assist districts with their academic and career planning programs. Students not only get a head start on their college degrees, but also explore new areas of study that lead to job growth and career opportunities. During 2018, over 1,900 students saved $1.2 million through the College Credit in High School program’s reduced tuition.

An innovative, and collaborative approach to this program is TurboCharge, a partnership between UW-Green Bay, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, and Green Bay Area Public Schools that, in addition to targeting increased access and success of secondary students in college credit-bearing coursework and beyond, uses career clusters to help guide students in transcribed college course selection, and starting a path toward a certification or college degree.

**Teacher Development Partnership with Green Bay Area Schools**

The UW-Green Bay Professional Program in Education and the Green Bay Area Public School District (GBAPSD) are partnering in new ways to provide pathways for licensure for teachers on emergency licenses needing English as a Second Language (ESL) licensure. Support for this project is from the Wisconsin Fast Forward Program, a state funded grant program through the Department of Workforce Development (DWD). The grant encourages school boards or other governing boards of schools to partner with post-secondary institutions or other entities to address area workforce demands. The $250,000 grant, primarily covering course tuition and books for participants, will run over a two-year period. Compelling reasons for this project include the fact that these GBAPSD employees are representative of the diversity existing in our student population, and that they have a demonstrated commitment to the education of children within the Green Bay Area Public School District. Because of the Professional Program in Education’s flexibility, cohort participants are able to continue their full time employment with the district while also progressing toward teacher licensure.

**Skills Learning Lab Preparation for Real-Life Situations**

UW-Green Bay invested in a state-of-the-arts Skills Learning Lab that provides an environment that fosters communication and counseling skills, promotes professional practice behaviors, and creates opportunities for interdisciplinary learning among students in health-related and education fields. The Skills Learning Lab demonstrates UW-Green Bay’s commitment to helping the community fulfill the increasing demand for social workers, needed more than ever in schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, child welfare and human service agencies and more. Education students as well as students in other majors will benefit.

The new physical space and cutting-edge technology provides an opportunity for video recording of simulation exercises, role-play and other strategies designed to help students learn
skill development and best practices. Professional Program in Education students will use this space to deeply investigate teaching and learning practices that impact student understanding of literacy, mathematics, science and social studies concepts. This new learning lab will ensure that UW-Green Bay students can learn in a world-class learning environment while also further developing community partnerships and growing overall impact.

The newly completed space was recently toured by faculty, staff, and community and private donors, without whom the Skills Learning Lab would have not been possible. Key donors were the Weidner/Klotzbuecher family and Chernick Family Foundation. Attorney Mark Klotzbuecher, UW-Green Bay Human Biology program graduate, 2009 is the grandson of UW-Green Bay Founding Chancellor Ed Weidner and his wife Jean. Additional support was received from the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families and a Wisconsin Technology Initiative grant.

Behavioral Health Training Partnership Statewide Expansion

The Behavioral Health Training Partnership (BHTP) at UW-Green Bay expanded statewide their core crisis training partnership program currently offered to crisis response professionals in the region now in 58 counties and 1 tribe of the total of 72 counties located in the State of Wisconsin. Communities need services in place to address crises, such as exacerbations of mental health conditions, domestic conflicts, or suicidal ideation. Addressing these situations requires properly trained crisis response professionals, including 24-hour crisis hotline responders, crisis counselors, and other specialized professionals.

Standards for Training Crisis Response Professionals

Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 51 (Mental Health Act) mandates that every county in the state of Wisconsin provide crisis response services to its citizens in the event of a mental health crisis. This includes assessing for risk, developing safety plans, coordination of ongoing care, and arranging for institutional care for individuals who are a danger to themselves or others. In addition, any crisis worker who is responding to a youth or family in crisis must have a minimum of 20 hours of training specific to children’s mental health issues.

The BHTP trainings are critical in meeting this need and equipping professionals with knowledge needed to make life or death decisions in intense, high stress situations. The Wisconsin Counties Human Services Association (WCHSA) asked BHTP to consider expanding to all counties in Wisconsin to support uniformity in training among crisis programs/behavioral health services and to ease the burden of training on the counties outside of the Northeast Region.

WiSys Innovation in Aging Competition at UW-Green Bay

The Innovation in Aging competition challenged UW-Green Bay students to create innovative solutions to combat hardships and improve quality of life for an aging public. Nine student teams, made up of students of each of the university’s four colleges, made eight-minute presentations with their creative solutions and were evaluated by a panel of judges from the community. The student teams received mentoring assistance from WiSys, UW-Green Bay faculty members, and Green Bay area community members in the weeks leading up to the event.
The event was a partnership between WiSys, the UW-Green Bay College of Health, Education and Social Welfare, and the UW-Green Bay Gerontology Center. The competition gave students an opportunity to develop important skills such as idea development, collaboration and public presentation. WiSys also instilled an understanding of intellectual property.

The Assist team took first place with its “Scan Shield” concept of a safe debit card design specifically for the elderly. The Assist team, made up of UW-Green Bay students Jenna Bares, Emily Lautenschlager, Tommy Mlodzik and Garrett Spencer, won a $500 prize for its presentation before an audience and judges in UW-Green Bay’s Christie Theatre. Members of The Assist team represented the Design Lounge, a student organization, which works to broaden student designers’ knowledge of graphic design through real life experiences and involvement.

**Sea Grant – Restoring the Health of the Green Bay Ecosystem**

A diverse group of UW-Green Bay geoscientists, limnologists, and natural resources educators, a water chemist, a biologist, a civil engineer, and a watershed scientist collaborated on a Sea Grant-funded effort to envision ecological conditions in Lake Michigan’s Green Bay. Moira Harrington of Sea Grant writes, “the Transitioning Science to Management: Developing Models and Tools to Restore the Health of the Green Bay Ecosystem project seeks to understand and evaluate alternative approaches to meet water quality goals for the Green Bay watershed under current and projected climate; it builds on prior work that assembled a comprehensive set of linked models of watershed loading, biogeochemical cycling and hydrodynamics”, demonstrating, once again, the extensive power of partnerships UW-Green Bay is engaged in.

**Kindergartners’ Nature’s Way**

For several UW-Green Bay pre-service teachers getting back to nature took on a whole new meaning upon enrolling in the two-credit course *Environmental Education in K12 Schools*. Through this unique cooperative educational venture involving UW-Green Bay, the Green Bay Area Public School District, the city of Green Bay, and the 600-acre nature setting in the campus’s proximity, the teachers-to-be experienced Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary not only for themselves, but also through the eyes of their future four-year-old pupils. The collaboration, now in place for several years, “got going during the 2012-2013 school year,” UW-Green Bay’s Associate Dean of Health, Education, and Social Welfare recalled. “There were multiple meetings that took place to meet all of the policies and procedures that needed to be met put into a program like this for the different partners; the district was looking for more four-year-old kindergarten placements on the east side of Green Bay; the sanctuary wanted to create a program that would get young students interested in environmental education. Finally, UW-Green Bay was looking for more ways to reach out to our community partners.”

**UW-Green Bay’s Future 15**

Out of the thousands of young professionals in the Greater Green Bay area, and hundreds nominated, only 15 of Greater Green Bay Chamber’s Current Young Professionals are highlighted to represent their peers because of their potential to lead their communities, their places of work, and their families. UW-Green Bay is proud that three of the 15 are employees of University, and four are UW-Green Bay graduates. “The annual event profiles 15 area young professionals who are growing and excelling in their respective fields,” according to the
Chamber of Commerce Website. “These individuals are currently influencing the growth, prosperity and quality of life in Brown County and will demonstrate the ability to positively impact the area in the future through professional accomplishments and community involvement.”

Current created the young professional awards in 2007 as a way to honor those that advance its mission by profiling best practices that could be adopted by other local individuals and organizations. Additionally, Current sought to recognize area young professionals in the Greater Green Bay community who are composing noteworthy accomplishments and contributing to the overall quality of life in Greater Green Bay.

**First Annual Acton Children’s Business Fair**

UW-Green Bay’s Cofrin School of Business sponsored the first ever Acton Children’s Business Fair on Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at Leicht Park, downtown Green Bay. The fair was an opportunity for children to launch their very own startup business – develop a brand, create a product or service, build a marketing strategy, and then open for customers at our one-day marketplace. In the belief that entrepreneurs are heroes and role models for the next generation, the fair provided an opportunity to “transact business with young entrepreneurs who have spent their summer designing a unique product, developing the product or sale and marketing their ideas.”

The Children's Business Fair, skillfully designed to provide hands-on, authentic learning opportunity for youth to spend the summer reading, writing, and computing with a business goal in mind was supported by the Solid Foundation Learning, Inc., Acton Academy, the Acton School of Business, Gather on Broadway, as well as generous private donors and volunteers.

**Volunteers Make a Difference Day**

UW-Green Bay volunteers totaled 719 hours of service at 18 various sites during the big difference in the community event held on October, 2018. On campus, volunteers made 180 cards for disabled veterans through the TRIO Program, picked up garbage, painted, helped with plastic film recycling, and cleaned the Lake Michigan Green Bay shoreline. Off-campus projects included garden cleanup, bulb planting, and organizing for the Festival of Lights at the Green Bay Botanical Garden as well as yard work and cleaning for the New Community Shelter; and helping the NEW Zoo get ready for Zoo Boo community Halloween event.

**The Farmory - Wisconsin’s First Year-Around Fish Hatchery**

In unique partnership with biologists from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay’s College of Science, Engineering and Technology, The Farmory opened Wisconsin’s first research-based, full-scale year-round commercial fish hatchery this winter. A first of its kind in the state, the partnership combines UW-Green Bay’s faculty and student expertise, along with the The Farmory’s innovative indoor vertical aquaponics system and large hatchery space. Fresh, locally-grown perch will once again be available to area restaurants and provide opportunities for local commercial fish entrepreneurs.

Exceptional community support and a grant from the WiSys Technology Foundation have jump-started the project, most notably the hiring of fish biologist Ken Webb, an associate researcher at UW-Green Bay, often referred to as “Fish Guy.” Webb’s leadership and expertise
in the aquaculture industry allows for potential development of new intellectual property from the hatchery project, and will position The Farmory as a regional center of excellence in the aquaculture and indoor AgTech industries.

**UW-Green Bay Undergraduates Lead Northern Pike Research**

UW-Green Bay’s northern pike research was led by a team of undergraduate students who were enrolled in the Fish and Wildlife Population Dynamics class taught by Associate Prof. Patrick Forsythe (NAS). 2018 was the sixth consecutive year that UW-Green Bay students were provided the opportunity for hands-on, minds-on learning through researching the northern pike spawning populations at the Suamico, Wis. site. For the research, the team set two fyke nets, special devices made from fibers woven in a grid-like structure, side-by-side in an agricultural ditch that lead to a wetland where the pike spawn. One net was facing the wetland, catching the fish going into the wetland, while the other net captured fish heading out of the wetland, back out into the bay of Green Bay.

**Social Work Research for United Way**

Culminating a year-long collaborative research project with United Way, the Bachelor of Social Work senior class gave a presentation in UW-Green Bay’s Christie Theater. Annually, seniors in the Social Work Program take on a collaborative research project with a community partner. This year, the students worked with United Way to learn more about UW-Green Bay students who identify as ALICE, which stands for: asset limited, income constrained, employed. The social work students used a photovoice methodology, which means that research participants took photos to express what it means to them to have limited incomes while also balancing the expectations of being a college student. Proof of the rigor and success of the methodology employed by UW-Green Bay student-researchers is that United Way Brown County intends to replicate the research project on a wider scale, eager to replicate both findings and methodology.

**Linking Algae to Alzheimer’s**

You wouldn’t think that a professor whose work mainly focuses on dry, arid landscapes would have much relevance to life near the Great Lakes. But, UW-Green Bay Prof. Renee Richer’s research may help change the way the world looks at Alzheimer’s and ALS, or Lou Gehrig’s disease, by changing the way we look at… algae. Richer’s work is part of a larger study being led by Paul Cox, a Harvard ethnobotanist that looks at the possibility that diseases like Alzheimer’s and ALS may be treated through the use of dietary amino acids, rather than pharmaceuticals. Their research looks at island villages where Alzheimer’s and ALS are frequent versus villages where the diseases are relatively unknown. The work was profiled as a cover story for the January 2019 edition of Fortune Magazine that looked at the billions spent by big pharma as compared to the more modest approach by Wyoming’s Brain Chemistry Lab, of which Cox and Richer are a part. Richer’s work helped to map cyanobacteria in Qatar so that researchers could better understand the relationship between cyanobacteria, BMAA, and neurodegenerative diseases.
Crisis Intervention Training: On the Frontlines

An expanding UW-Green Bay training program is helping those on the front lines in Wisconsin, ensures crisis calls are answered, and properly handled, every time. Crisis calls for help are best answered by individuals with a passion for helping others and life-saving training that prepares them to handle any and all situations that arise. These exceptional people are often the difference between life and death.

Since 2009, crisis counselors have access to the critical training they need through UW-Green Bay’s Behavioral Health Training Partnership (BHTP). The BHTP provides training, consultation and support services for Wisconsin’s county human services professionals and other community organizations (e.g., schools, foster parents, law enforcement). A Wisconsin Department of Health Services grant created the training partnership more than nine years ago to improve the quality and capacity of crisis services in the region. The team now trains crisis care professionals in 53 of 72 counties in the state.

‘Eco U’ Bridge Ecology and Economics

A decade ago, UW-Green Bay launched a collaborative effort to bridge a perceived gap between the business world, the natural environment, and the role public policy plays in sustaining both. The University now has more than 100 graduates in the field with certification that helps them connect business and their environment and lead in both areas. The collaboration, formalized in 2008, was named the Environmental Management and Business Institute (EMBI). UW-Green Bay economics professor John Stoll ’73 (Regional Analysis) and Environmental Sciences professor Kevin Fermanich were named co-directors. Along with professor John Katers ’91 and ’93 (Business Administration, Environmental Science and Environmental Science and Policy), now dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Technology, the team recognized that each of these worlds had a significant influence on the sustainability of the other two, and that the symbiotic aspects of their relationships could be used for mutual benefit.

Tiny Earth at Lambeau Field

More than 200 participants attended the Tiny Earth event at Lambeau Field on Dec. 7, 2018 where UW-Green Bay, and undergraduate students from across Green Bay and Wisconsin were “bent on a mission to discovery new antibiotics through their research” said UW-Green Bay, and Medical College of Wisconsin instructor Prof. Brian Merkel (Human Biology). Tiny Earth is an innovative program spanning 44 states and 15 countries that inspires and retains students in the sciences while addressing one of the most pressing global health challenges of our century: the diminishing supply of effective antibiotics. Tiny Earth, sponsored by UW-Green Bay, the Medical College of Wisconsin, and Cherney Labs, centers around an introductory biology course in which students perform hands-on field and laboratory research on soil hunting for new antibiotics.

Wild Rice Seeding Restoration on Green Bay

A team of conservation professionals and volunteers from the UW-Green Bay, along with the UW-Extension, Ducks Unlimited, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and others seeded 2,000 lbs. of wild rice at various sites in the bay of Green Bay in early November 2018. This third year of the seeding effort was part of the restoration
project informed by the UW-Green Bay aquatic vegetation research in lower Green Bay. Wild rice benefits waterfowl as an important food source during fall migration and contributes to fish nursery habitat and ecological diversity in coastal wetlands. Wild rice also holds important human traditional and cultural value, particularly for some Native American tribes. Historical records suggest the wetland plant occurred widely throughout Green Bay, but has been uncommon to rare in the bay in recent decades. Rice re-establishment was one of a series of restoration projects in lower Green Bay and along the Green Bay west shore to enhance coastal wetland habitat for fish and wildlife, and improve the health of Lake Michigan’s Green Bay, on the shores of which the UW-Green Bay campus is located.

College Credit in High School Increases Affordability

Last year students in Northeast Wisconsin saved more than $1 million in college tuition credit through UW-Green Bay’s College Credit in High School (CCIHS) Program. Through the program, students can earn college credit in their own high school classrooms, getting an affordable jumpstart on college credits and savings alike. This concurrent enrollment program, allows students to earn high school and UW-Green Bay credit for courses that are taught by high school teachers approved by UW-Green Bay faculty. CCIHS provides an alternative to programs such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate by providing transcripted college credit based on assessment over time instead of a single high stakes test.

Enrollments in the CCIHS program has increased considerably over the years. “Enrollment has increased 78 percent in the last five years. This increase is contributed to schools working to offer more opportunities for their students to earn college credits before they complete high school.” UW-Green Bay, through the College Credit in High School programming, currently partners with 47 different high schools across the state of Wisconsin to offer college credit options in areas such as world languages, English, history, engineering technology, education, psychology, human biology, sociology, mathematics, and communications.

Career Success of UW-Green Bay Graduates

Continuing a decade-long history of employability success, 96% of UW-Green Bay’s 2017 graduating class are employed, continue their education, or serve in the military within a year of graduation indicated the results of the annual First Destination Survey conducted by UW-Green Bay Career Services Office. 83% of respondents agreed that UW-Green Bay prepared them for their career. Of those employed, 57% accepted a job prior to graduation, while 50% were employed within three months of graduation.

86% of the graduates work in the State of Wisconsin at large employer partners such as Acuity, Ameriprise Financial, Ascension, Aurora BayCare, Baker Tilly, Bellin Health, Breakthrough Fuel, Brown County, Caravel Autism Health, Dental City, Festival Foods, Gannett, Georgia-Pacific, Green Bay Area Public School District, Hospital Sisters Health System, Humana, KBX Logistics LLC, KI, Kohler, Kohl’s, Lutheran Social Services, Menards, Millipore Sigma, Peace Corps, Pioneer Metal Finishing, Prevea Health, Rockwell Automation, Schenck SC, Schneider, Schreiber Foods, State of Wisconsin, ThedaCare, Thrivent, UnitedHealth Group, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Humane Society, Wisconsin State Assembly, and WLUK Fox 11 Television Stations.