

A REPORT ON
ENDOWMENTS FROM
THE UNIVERSITY
OF WISCONSIN
FOUNDATION

ENDOWMENT REPORT



University of Wisconsin Foundation

In 1945, a small group of University of Wisconsin volunteers established a gift and bequests council. The purpose was to encourage the growing practice of making gifts to the University. These efforts were formalized with the creation of the University of Wisconsin Foundation as the University's official fundraising organization.

While the state of Wisconsin provides significant support for the University, private assistance has contributed to the growth of the University over the years. However, in recent years, the financial burden has shifted. State funding now provides only the means for a basic education. Supplemental support from the private sector is necessary for the University to maintain the educational opportunities that ensure academic excellence.

As a private, non-profit, tax-exempt Wisconsin corporation that raises, invests and distributes funds for the benefit of the UW-Madison, the Foundation receives thousands of gifts each year from alumni, corporations, foundations, faculty and staff, and other friends of the University. These funds go to work across campus, supporting programs and providing otherwise unavailable resources. Gift dollars help support scholarships and fellowships, library collections, endowed faculty positions, equipment, state-of-the-art laboratories and buildings, and numerous other areas designated by donors. An independent organization, the UW Foundation works closely with University administration and faculty to match academic needs with private support.

The University of Wisconsin Foundation is committed to maintaining long-term authentic relationships with donors through exceptional stewardship practices.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has long been recognized as one of the country's great universities. A public, land-grant institution, UW-Madison offers a complete spectrum of liberal arts studies, professional programs and student activities. Many of its programs are hailed as world leaders in instruction, research and public service.

A clause in the Wisconsin Constitution decreed that the state should have a prominent public university. In 1848, Nelson Dewey, Wisconsin's first governor, signed the act that formally created the University of Wisconsin. The University has grown into a large, diverse community, with about 40,000 students enrolled each year.

Throughout its history, UW-Madison has sought to bring the power of learning into the daily lives of its students through innovations such as residential learning communities and service-learning opportunities. Students also participate freely in research, which has led to life-improving inventions ranging from more fuel-efficient engines to cutting-edge genetic therapies.

Students, faculty and staff are motivated by a tradition known as the "Wisconsin Idea," first started by UW President Charles Van Hise in 1904, when he declared that he would "never be content until the beneficent influence of the university [is] available to every home in the state." The Wisconsin Idea permeates the University's work and helps forge close working relationships among university faculty and students, and the state's industries and government. In recent decades, the borders of the University have expanded to the borders of the nation, the world and beyond.



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