



NEWS RELEASE

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Multicultural Awareness Team Wins Regents Diversity Award

Second major award for the UW-Extension and UW Colleges program

MADISON, Wis. – The University of Wisconsin System announced today that the Multicultural Awareness Program (MAP) Facilitation Team of the UW Colleges and UW-Extension is one of three recipients of the second annual Regents Diversity Awards. The awards program was established by the Board to recognize and support individuals and programs in the UW System that foster access and success in university life for historically underrepresented populations.

The MAP team consists of 28 employee volunteer facilitators from UW-Extension and UW Colleges. To meet the needs of an increasingly diverse workforce and student body, [MAP](#) has focused on transforming the two institutions by facilitating a deeper understanding of cultural issues. To date, more than 800 faculty and staff members from both institutions have participated in MAP workshops and other programs.

This is the second major award for the program. The Multicultural Awareness Program also won the 2009 Ann Lydecker Educational Diversity Award given by the [State Council on Affirmative Action](#) and the Office of State Employment Relations in November, 2010. In an email to all UW-Extension and UW Colleges faculty and staff, Chancellor David Wilson said, “These two awards are a great testimony to how we live our strategic priority of diversity and inclusion.”

In announcing the awards, regent José Vásquez said, “At a time when it is vitally important to close the achievement gap for historically underrepresented student populations, it is very gratifying to see the dedication and commitment to this goal exhibited by so many at our UW institutions. We recognize and salute the award recipients for their leadership as we continue to move forward.” Vásquez chaired the special Regents’ committee to determine the winners.

Other winners of the Regents Diversity Award were Marion McDowell, Administrative Program Manager, College of Health Sciences, Office of Student Services, UW-Milwaukee, <http://www4.uwm.edu/chs/index.cfm>; and the Summer Business Institute, UW-Whitewater, <http://wicits.uww.edu/sbi/>.

The winners will be honored at a ceremony on February 5, 2010, in conjunction with the Board of Regents meeting. Each winner will receive up to \$5,000 to support the recipients' professional development or to continue the program being honored.

The [University of Wisconsin Colleges](#) is comprised of 13 freshman-sophomore campuses which offer an [associate degree in arts and science](#) and prepare students of all ages and backgrounds for baccalaureate and professional programs. The [University of Wisconsin-Extension](#) includes Cooperative Extension offices in 72 counties and three tribal nations, 12 Small Business Development Centers and Outreach and E-Learning programs delivered via the 26 UW System campuses and distance-learning channels, as well as the statewide networks of Wisconsin Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Television.

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