



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PLATTEVILLE

## CORPORATE RELATIONS

### **WI Dells Business Roundtable**

**May 3, 2018**

### **Comments from roundtable businesses**

Please help us tell the full story of WI Dells. The Dells offers the best space and opportunities for entrepreneurs than any other place in the region. UW-Platteville has a dedicated department and curriculum for entrepreneurship. Additionally, Campus Entrepreneurs Organization, a student organization, participates in entrepreneurship projects and events. UW-Platteville Corporate Relations would love to discuss this in more detail and to see how we can combine resources and form an entrepreneurship channel of opportunity for our students and the Dells business community.

On-site learning at Dell's properties is very rigorous, organized, and both future and current employees have so many opportunities to hone in their skills and understanding of all business aspects.

There's over 65 countries represented by Dells workers

What are College Credit for K-12 & College Level students? Is this customizable?

Is there Management curriculum at UW-Platteville? Strong management skills are a much needed skillset for the Dells. Yes, UW-Platteville covers Project Management, Supply Chain Management, Building Construction Management, Industrial Technology Management, Building Construction Safety Management, and Occupational Safety Management.

Students need to know all the possible opportunities at WI Dells beyond just standard hospitality positions. There's opportunities with marketing, IT, management, accounting, sales, engineering, etc. UW-Platteville Corporate Relations recommends that the Dells business community communicates to us the plethora of opportunities, especially experiential learning offerings of internships and co-ops. If we understand the full-scope of opportunities, we can help present those items to our students, faculty, staff, donors, board members, and advisory boards.

Is it possible for UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo to examine curriculum and credits and to provide credit recognition for pre-graduation workforce activities? Could this be extended beyond a traditional internship and co-op?

WI Dells = Fun and Friendly. Is it possible to teach students the basics of how to fulfill a work attitude and outcome of being proactive, friendly, and delightful?

The Dells Resorts have extensive training programs for on-boarding and continuing education. Is it possible for the University to not only promote that but to join forces on this training? UW-Platteville highly recommends and encourages WI Dells businesses to visit UW-Platteville to see our learning spaces and to discuss training, communication, and partnerships in greater detail.

Is it possible for UW-Baraboo to become the MATC or quasi-technical school of this region? So much need for hands-on learning and experiential on-going training. UW-Platteville representatives mentioned that the university has on-going relationships with MATC and other technical schools. University officials are researching systems and best practices used by technical schools to see if we can implement similar structures and/or practices into our mix. There's great potential for the 2-year campuses to provide additional technical experiential capabilities and offerings.

Is it possible for UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo to make a design research project as a requirement for all internships?

The reality is that non-summer workforce is a bigger need since J1 and other potential pools of employees are unavailable during the summer months.

On average, there's 16,000+ summer jobs available in the Dells.

Is it possible for the university and business to work out a customized work-study program? Since regular work study wages aren't as competitive as in the business world (it seems like most work study wages are minimum wage), it would seem more advantageous for students to have higher wage opportunities. Would it be possible for students to still get a break on tuition (as in a federal work study program) or maybe a part of the wage goes directly to the universities accounting office to pay down the tuition cost? Maybe a % of funds can be aligned with scholarships and grants. Since a regular work study program limits the number of hours that a student can work, a direct business work study opportunity could provide enough hours for the student to make pay their entire tuition semester balance or to make a major dent in their total academic cost. There's an obvious balance that would have to be determined so the student has enough time and rest for both academics, work, and extracurricular activities.

Is it possible for UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo to provide a fully committed culinary program? Some universities and tech schools are offering a combo of culinary arts and food science. This unique approach marries the creativity and the science of food. Understandings of critical social issues surrounding food, technical culinary skills, and the principles of food science and product development are all important aspects. Could there be a BS and MS in Culinary Arts offered? UW-Platteville is in communication with UW-Stout to gain a better sense of what they're teaching and how UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo can fill in the gaps. At the same time, discussions are at hand to see if UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo can extend the aspects of hospitality into particular areas of focus including culinary.

Is it possible for UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo to include curriculum instruction on diversity of issues and role playing problems within hospitality and overall communications? Items such as conflict resolution, understanding and working with the full spectrum of personality traits, and generational approach to communication.

WI Dells / WI Dells Foundation awards a number of scholarships every year. The scholarships are targeted to WI Dells High School graduates and provides funds for their college / extended education

journey. Major donors include Kalahari, Tommy Bartlett, Trappers Turn, Bank of WI Dells, NAMI, and Friede & Associates. The awarded scholarships are \$5k per student.

Dan Gavinski, WI Duck Tours, mentioned that the CBS program "60 Minutes" recently featured Princeton and focusing on how Princeton and other colleges and universities are increasing college access and success for first-generation and low-income college students. UW-Platteville does spend significant amounts of time and resources providing access to these groups. We have a significant amount of first-generation students on campus and we strive to have increasing scholarships and grant awards available.

Problem Solving skills are lacking in many employees hired in the last 10 years. The specific skills of ordering, comparing, contrasting, evaluating, and selecting are pretty nominal. Critical thinking and analytical along with logic and a methodical approach are essential to true problem solving. Data Science is such an important skill along with adaptability. Real life problem solving is a major component of curriculum at UW-Platteville. Whether its industry sponsored design projects or internships / co-ops, the bulk of students are fully engaged with industry and real-life troubleshooting challenges.

How can a business start a relationship with UW-Platteville / UW-Baraboo? The best starting point is going through Corporate Relations. Corporate Relations will help you navigate through the campus and to create a game-plan as to how we can help you and your business achieve specific goals and needs through full engagement with students, faculty, staff, curriculum, departments, etc.

Does UW-Platteville have risk management and safety curriculum? Yes, we have courses covering both. We have Project Risk Management, Occupational Safety Management, and Building Construction Safety Management.

Is there a way to show students the fast trajectory at the Dells? Students have to start at the entry level position and if the employee is bringing their 'A-game', the advancement is swift. It's also important to show the students that all experiences are important and critical to understanding the entire operation and those experiences lead into the next level opportunity.