

WINNEBAGO COUNTY PROGRAM EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE
Developed - April 2007

SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE: June 27, 2007

DEPARTMENT: UW Fox

DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT:

PROGRAM: UW Fox

1. Describe the program, its purpose and goals. The University of Wisconsin Colleges is a multi-campus institution (UW Fox is the second largest of thirteen constituent campuses) that prepares students for success at the baccalaureate level of education, provides the first two years of a liberal arts general education that is accessible and affordable, and advances the Wisconsin Idea by bringing the resources of the University to the people of the state and the communities that provide and support its campuses.

GOALS

1. To excel at delivering a liberal arts general education associate degree, prepares students for transfer to baccalaureate-granting institutions and professional programs.
2. To emphasize teaching excellence including the development, use, and assessment of effective teaching methods.
3. To prepare students for lifelong learning, leadership, service and responsible citizenship.
4. To foster scholarly activity that supports the mission of the University of Wisconsin Colleges.
5. To serve the people of Wisconsin by promoting continuing education and outreach in Wisconsin communities.
6. To participate in collaborative relationships with other University of Wisconsin System institutions, the Wisconsin Technical College System, private colleges, and K-12 public schools in order to maximize educational opportunities and resources for the people of Wisconsin.
7. To serve the needs of ethnically diverse students, students with disabilities and nontraditional students.
8. To make available as a service to business, industry and the general public, the unique professional expertise of the faculty and staff.
9. To provide opportunities for civic and cultural enrichment in the communities that support its campuses.

2. Who is the program intended to serve? How many are served? UWFox serves a population of approximately 1750 freshman-sophomore students each fall and spring semester. The vast majority come from Outagamie and Winnebago Counties. About 9% come from Calumet County. About 35% are "adult" students. The emphasis is on access for local students. An additional 500 students are served during the summer session program (about half of these are students who attend colleges elsewhere but who come home during the summer). Another 175 are part of collaborations that provide bachelor's degrees with several 4-year University of Wisconsin institutions. In addition, thousands of individuals are served each year by our outreach services (Scholars Series, Office of Continuing Education, Chorale and Theatre Performances, visitors to the Bohrod Gallery [5000 visitors per year], Weis Earth Science Museum [25,000 attendees per year], Barlow Planetarium [40,000 visitors per year], athletic events, et cetera).

3. Are the program benefits long-lasting and essential to the service populations? Yes. Consider that the campus has been in existence for 75 years (almost 50 now at Midway Road, and the tens (hundred?) of thousands of students who chose this campus to launch their lives into successful professional careers. The benefits provided are life-long.

4. Is this program directly or indirectly related to or does it support any other program in this department or another department? If so, how? No. (It could be hypothesized that what we do reduces the burden on the county court system, because educated citizens tend to be resources to the community rather than drains on it.)

5. **How does this program make the department or county government more effective or efficient, including any intergovernmental relationship?** UWFox is the provider of higher education deemed critical for economic, social and political lives of the residents of northeast Wisconsin by the governor, legislators and local businesses.
6. **How do you determine/measure if this program has been effectively provided and implemented?** UWFox prepares an annual budget and prioritizes projects which must be completed each year so that the most important issues are addressed within the timeframe required in consideration of the budget constraints imposed by the county. The academic program is assessed yearly for efficacy and is accredited by a national accrediting agency, the Higher Learning Commission.
7. **Could the county cost-effectively subcontract this program?** No.
8. **State the numerical ranking of this program compared to all programs in your department and briefly explain.** No. 1
9. **Are there current alternatives to this program available in the community? Can this program be provided through alternative arrangements with other providers (i.e. private entities, other County departments, other governmental units)?** Lawrence University resides in our Fox Cities Community but with costs that exceed \$30,000 per year it is outside the reach of most local students. UW Oshkosh is a public alternative, but it caters largely to traditional aged students (Fox's clientele is 35% adults) and because so many Fox students are place-bound to the immediate community, the UWO program does not fit their needs. Fox Valley Technical College's mission is one primarily of training for immediate employment rather than liberal arts education for careers in professions that require a bachelor's degree. UWFox is unique in its ability to provide higher education to place bound students in need of a university education.
10. **If this program were eliminated, what would be the ramifications for the County (i.e., added risk, liability or legal issues)?** See number 5. Each year 3500 students, plus the individuals served by our outreach programs would lose this access.
11. **What is the program impact and effectiveness related to the program cost?** See number 5. Additionally, it is estimated that the economic impact of the UWFox campus and programs is \$50.4 million. UWFox produces more than 150 Associate of Arts and Sciences degree graduates per year. A much greater number of students transfer into their junior year of college without the associate's degree. All students save thousands of dollars that can be spent on other goods and local services because they were able to live at home, and continue their jobs while attending school at UWFox. Students benefit from personal attention from experienced faculty (over 80% of the faculty hold a Ph.D. or terminal degree) and perform very well when they transfer. Nearly 400 students made the Dean's Honors list last year. According to UW Oshkosh Chancellor Rick Wells, "these are our very best transfer students."
12. **Is this program currently duplicated by another county department or provider in the community?** No. See number 9 above.
13. **What are your ideas for finding efficiencies in your Department (i.e. reducing duplication of services, better use of technology, reducing waste of resources, opportunities for partnering, opportunities for combining programs, personnel, functions etc, time-saving ideas, identifying 'sacred cows' etc.)? (Note – this question will not be scored).** Among Wisconsin higher education, the legislative audit bureau has found that UWFox is among the most cost effective by virtue of our shared systems and centralized administrative structure. Our faculty and staff are among the lowest paid in the UW System. Technical college faculty are paid significantly more than our faculty (~\$8 million in support for the academic program at Fox comes from the state and about \$139,000 from the county each year. Technical college costs are largely the burden of local property taxes.). We continue to increase the efficiency of our operations, for example partnering with Winnebago County for its parking lot repairs. We offer courses to high schools via interactive television. We are seeking efficiency by additional collaboration with the technical colleges and UWO and UWGB. We would like to reduce our dependence on high cost fossil-fuel, but given the counties do not pay the bill, there is a reluctance for the counties to invest in green construction that has higher initial costs but means energy savings down the road.