

Wisconsin Idea Forum Question 3 (notecard responses):

If we, at UW-Madison, were to be ten times bolder about living the Wisconsin Idea, what could we do?

Blue cards:

1. Give state agency (DOT, DOJ, etc.) librarians (there are only 13 left) access to online databases so they can facilitate better info transfer for their agencies and the state-at-large
2. Create clearinghouse that includes all UW resources and give access to all communities in WI and nationwide
3. Explain and advocate for the WI IDEA everywhere we network both within and outside the community
4. Create WI ambassador positions with standard competency requirements
5. Provide more resources (time!) for faculty/staff (one day a week for Wisconsin idea project)
6. Always be on the look out for ways to benefit the UW through connect to outside resources and vice versa. Then ACT on our observations by linking the right individuals to one another.
- *Mentor (comment added)*
7. Idea: Create an easily accessible and user-friendly database that connects everyone (i.e. students, faculty, staff, parents, prospective students, youth, and other community members/groups) to campus and community information and resources. Example: Student input their skills, interests, and other parameters into a criteria screen and what results is engagement opportunities on campus and in the community they may be interested in.
- *But dislike technology in place of people (comment added)*
8. Larger institutional commitment – office of WI Idea (plus money, resources, publicity, and coordination).
9. Invite elementary students – schools in Madison – to come to campus for events, class, tours
10. Identify knowledge exchange points throughout the state, in with distance learning technology
11. Have community events – invite community members to participate and present on and off campus
12. Lead world in percentage of faculty/staff in exchange programs
13. Invite community to actively engage in setting university's research agenda
14. Include community engagement as a requirement for tenure
15. Adjust tenure and promotion guidelines for faculty to include their work in communities, such as community-based research projects
16. Develop more graduate fellowship and dissertation funds to support graduate students in local, national, and international communities
17. Publish stories that provide examples of WI Idea in action

Purple cards:

18. Expand these collaboration situations/opportunities across campus – include community members and other UW campuses
19. Listen first to understand
20. Foster fractal community
21. Redefine resources outside of the “scarcity” mindset
22. Overhaul promotion and tenure criteria – NOW!
23. Facilitate a state-wide simultaneous dialogue on community
24. Create interactive database for community to contribute
25. Campus wide examination of barriers preventing boundary spanning and open to possibilities to release them
26. We would eliminate the racial disparity in high school graduate rates

27. If we were to be 10x bolder... We would eliminate poverty in WI
28. We would eliminate obesity and malnutrition by improving access to healthy foods
29. We could provide healthcare to anyone in WI (visitors, non-documented, residents, etc.)
30. Change ways of thinking to recognize that the path to security and happiness is through fostering healthy relationships
31. Develop curriculum in collaboration with community knowledge-holders; allow community co-teaching
32. Commit 10x ore more funding to support projects

Green cards:

33. Let students tell their stories and provide a place for them to do it (itunes, digital stories, oral history project)
34. Consider community service programs and service learning in tenure evaluations
35. Take students out of classrooms to resources across state to see what is being done in their discipline to help communities
36. Recruit students with interest in community engagement. Fund them.
37. Community service as a graduate requirement
38. Reorganize ourselves to be responsive to places in the state to address the complex issues facing the communities in that place. This would require us to form interdisciplinary teams to work collaboratively with the community to learn together over time – multi-year commitment.
39. Create a Center for Artistic Entrepreneurship that would welcome students across the UW System and access arts entrepreneurship skills, techniques, and avenues for professional advancement. Tools for survival in the arts, for all
40. Open access to campus resources or campus to communities through out state from distance learning
41. Create a faculty award for the integration of research, training, and public service.
42. ALL humanities graduate students as HEX scholars (ENGAGE in community)
43. Have a monthly “Wisconsin Idea Happy Hour” to honor people that are out there living the idea – make it system wide
44. Break down barriers to accessing knowledge by taking existing system and sharing them cross campus – technologies – ideas for learning
45. Hold a yearly day-long event – like a pageant – like the Michael Pollan (BIG READ) to address a broad topic and invite participation campus-wide. Issues would include wellness, entrepreneurship, Madison/community collaborations

Red cards:

46. Conduct this or a similar workshop with UW-Madison tenured faculty (only). And all deans and chancellor in attendance for at least a day long WI Idea faculty retreat for buy-in at all levels of university
47. www.dcs.wisc.edu > search art > WRAP – non professional exhibits and learning the business side of Art classes
48. Center for Humanities/Faculty Alliance > purpose to blend/mix with faculty
49. Conduct community needs assessments to direct a portion of each unit’s annual plan of work
50. 10x bolder: make outreach activities a requirement of all faculty and staff
51. Require faculty to participate in outreach as a part of the tenure of post tenure review processes
52. Every member of UW System Faculty and Staff would be required to, and allowed to provide up to 50% of their appointment in off campus endeavors, including mentoring, outreach, teaching, etc.

53. Develop an effective and efficient and used reporting system that would collect ALL staff, faculty, student activities that are WI Idea related
54. Hold classes in other locations in the community
55. Require each unit to collaborate with another unit on Wisconsin Idea initiatives
56. Create a better structure to facilitate faculty and staff participating in outreach activities
57. Have every student take a service-learning course before graduating!

Yellow cards:

58. Take all new faculty and staff on the road to see, listen, and learn about their communities
59. BOLDER: Create 20 endowed WI Idea chanced professorships to support public engagement; and provide resources at the endowment.
60. We would have have it as an expectation that faculty engage in activities and projects realizing the WI Idea, and that it would be seriously valued and evaluated as a part of the promotion, tenure, and retention process.
61. Students would understand that being a part of the UW system is buying into the WI Idea and consider it an expectation and obligation during and after their UW experience.
- *WI Idea contract that every student must sign and revisit every year (comment added)*
62. Better promote ourselves as the one-stop shop for lifelong learning/engagement for people of all ages, education level, and socio-economic status
63. BOLDER: Revise tenure and post tenure criteria to include public engagement truly equal to research/education
64. Reduce the invisibility or negative or unproductive or counterproductive tensions between specialized and general knowledge while accentuating the productive tensions between specialized and general knowledge
65. Increase the numbers of marginalized communities accessing the university

White cards:

66. Teach and encourage faculty and staff to engage in and foster the WI Idea
67. We would have a campus/community advisory board for the WI Idea
68. We could attract students, faculty, and staff that are more racially/ethnically diverse
69. We would make IT resources available for communities to access (online resources, technical assistance, hardware/software)
70. 10x bolder we could... Have a surplus of ideas, opportunities and resources. Like a queue to choose from rather than a patchwork, piecemeal lurching approach. Staying on top of it, not playing catch up
71. 10x Bolder: Integrate representatives of the UW system throughout the extension county about system
72. Portray/have a physical gathering place for all UW and community collaborations
73. Support the role of outreach staff on campus
74. We could collaborate with communities without worrying about justifying or predicting outcomes precisely – we could take more risks
75. Provide business skills to all artists in the community who feel they are lacking in that area. Be an artist community resource center

Red marble cards:

76. Be a model of the Land Ethic and Learning Organization
- All decisions and actions include enhancement of who ecosystem health and human well being
77. Hold UW student classes in the community. Lose the classroom
78. Work with more organizations within the community

79. Have more consistent programming in the community
80. 10x Bolder: We would establish 2-way dialogues with every community (divided geographically, by school district, county??) to make ourselves aware of their resources, their wants/needs, and use this info to better target our UW partnerships
81. Pick a theme that has a clear public policy/econ development/wellness aspects and have every department contribute to projects to realize aspects with their communities
82. Provide more access to our classrooms with free webcasting
83. Make community engagement equally important as a criteria for tenure as research and publishing

Blue marble cards:

84. Do a “job exchange” – have those within the University and those “outside” (but in related fields) essentially trade jobs for a day. Let them learn each others challenges, strengths, and hopes
85. Give all UW faculty, staff, and students specifically-protected time (and a small allotment of resources) to carry out a specific “Wisconsin Idea” project – let them do it – share – repeat.
86. Wisconsin Idea activity as high-level required item for tenure and promotion for all faculty and staff
87. Wisconsin idea sabbaticals for all staff and faculty
88. Wisconsin idea percentage of all staff/faculty appointment (5-10%)
89. Each UW school could be asked with formulation and budgeting a WI Idea situation – Every faculty member could be sent out of their office on a community engagement pilgrimage – UW Madison administration could be forced to swap with UW Superior administration for one year
90. Coordinate WI Idea efforts – their no central directory, we don’t know what others at UW are doing, often similar things – we need more collaboration
91. Significantly impact global issues
92. Boldly attack cultural/political limits – inter-campus rivalry, professor limite (no rewards for outreach), political/cultural mistrust of UW
93. We would really listen to what people outside of the campus community have to say. We would practice humility; see everyone’s experience as equally important, put into practice innovative ideas to overcome WI’s biggest challenges
94. Wisconsin idea grant program open to all UW-Madison staff and faculty (collaborations)