



Hello, Badger Parents! *Welcome from the Dean of Students*

In this Issue

Welcome from the Dean of Students	1
Talk Like a Badger.....	2
The Wisconsin Idea	3
David Ward Appointed Interim Chancellor	3
Did You Know?	3
Keep Up With Campus News.....	3
Key Dates	4
Advice for Off-Campus Moving Day.....	4
Updates: Tuition and the Madison Initiative	4
Sending Your Student Mail and Packages	4
Career Corner	5
Give the Gift of the Arts... 6	
UW–Madison at the State Fair.....	6
Textbook Costs.....	6
First-Year Experience.....	7

The Parent Program is here for you.

www.parent.wisc.edu
parent@uwmad.wisc.edu
 877-262-3977

Professional staff:
 Patti Lux-Weber
 Stephanie Benson

Student intern:
 Katie Kruse



Lori Berquam,
Dean of Students

I hope that both you and your student have had a terrific summer. A flurry of activity is taking place on campus, all designed to welcome students back to UW–Madison. I encourage your family to also do a little preparation for what we hope will be another successful year in Madison.

Here at the Division of Student Life, we believe that parents and family members are the greatest allies and resources in our efforts to support the success of our students. I hope you will help us get off to a great start by bringing yourself up to speed on several important campus matters, and by talking with your student before he or she returns to campus.

UW–Madison is a place that expects academic rigor. Encourage your student's commitment to this rigor. We also provide resources and support to help ensure that his or her time here is successful. A good starting point for resources is www.wisc.edu.

Take a few minutes to talk to your student about getting involved in activities outside the classroom. Students have significant opportunities to integrate in-class and out-of-class learning experiences through active, creative, and entrepreneurial engagement in real-world problems — we call this the Wisconsin Experience. For more information, visit www.learning.wisc.edu.

As you may know, the number-one problem on college campuses across the country is high-risk drinking. Consequences can range from missed classes and poor grades to long-term health risks. Talk about this with your student, reflecting your own family's values and expectations, and revisit the topic throughout the semester.

Madison is generally a safe community in which to live and work, but it isn't immune to the challenges of a growing city. UW–Madison views safety as a shared partnership among students, staff, police, and our community. Please remind your student to walk with friends or use SAFE Nighttime Services, let others

know where he or she is going and when to expect him or her to return, always lock doors and windows, and carry a cell phone. For additional safety resources and information, visit www.safeu.wisc.edu.

Review our expectations of students and encourage them to uphold our values. We expect that all UW–Madison students:

- Are positive representatives of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, reflecting the ideals of the Wisconsin Idea.
- Conduct themselves with the highest level of personal and academic integrity.
- Demonstrate respect for other members of the university and local community.
- Take pride in themselves as students, scholars, and community members.
- Demonstrate a strong work ethic and capitalize upon the many opportunities and challenges they have as students.
- Leave a positive legacy on campus and continue to live the values of the university as alumni.

Your student is now a part of the Badger community, one committed to upholding the values of the Wisconsin Experience and the university. Badgers are ethical and curious in their academic work, seeking opportunities to engage critically and deeply. Badgers show respect for the dignity of others, pursuing opportunities to learn and grow.

Lastly, Badgers incorporate their education into their lives, applying the knowledge they learn and sharing it with the world. I am excited that your student is a part of this growing legacy.

Please keep in touch with us, and don't hesitate to let us know if there's anything we can do to help. You can learn more about the Division of Student Life at www.students.wisc.edu.

Thank you for being a partner in reinforcing these important messages with your student. Together, with your student, we can make it a safe and successful year!

Lori Berquam
Dean of Students



Talk Like a Badger

If you feel like your student is speaking an entirely different language, this UW vocabulary list can help.

TA. Shout-Outs. ASM. Langdon. Huh?

When your student first starts sprinkling these terms — and more — during conversations, you may find yourself in need of a translator. Along with other aspects of his or her new environment, your student has been learning a new vocabulary. And while it's become second nature to your student, as a parent, you need a little help.

The Parent Program asked some students to make a list of commonly used words and phrases, and provide definitions. Now it's time for you to go into study mode and review the list below.

Before you know it, you'll be talking Badger, too. [View the entire glossary here.](#)

Academically Speaking

Schools and colleges
Syllabus
TA
Office hours
Course numbers
Midterms and finals
WiscMail
Student Center
Center for Leadership and Involvement

Student Traditions

Homecoming
The Badger Herald and The Daily Cardinal
Shout-Outs
WSUM (91.7 FM)
Wisconsin Welcome
ASM (Associated Students of Madison)
Badger Football Game Days
"Jump Around"
"Varsity"
Fifth Quarter
All-Campus Party

Student Housing

Southeast Residence Halls
Lakeshore Residence Halls
Residence Hall Eating Areas
RLC or House Fellow
Wiscard

Popular Places

Library Mall
Bascom Hill
East Campus Mall
The Rathskeller
Lakeshore Path

Campus Buildings

Memorial Union and Union Terrace
Union South
Grainger Hall
College Library
Memorial Library
Bascom Hall
Humanities Building
Chazen Museum of Art
Student Activity Center (SAC)

Campus Neighborhoods

Langdon
Regent
State Street

Athletics

SERF
The Nat
Shell
Camp Randall Stadium
Kohl Center
Bucky Badger

Community Events

Dane County Farmers' Market
Maxwell Street Days
Mifflin Street Block Party
Freakfest



David Ward Appointed Interim Chancellor

Chancellor Emeritus David Ward has agreed to serve as UW–Madison’s interim chancellor following the departure of Chancellor Biddy Martin.

Ward’s appointment was effective July 18. Martin announced on June 14 that she was leaving the university in July to become the president of Amherst College.

After consulting with leaders of the Board of Regents and members of the UW–Madison campus community, UW System President Kevin Reilly identified Ward as the person who could provide effective leadership for UW System’s largest campus while a search is launched for Martin’s permanent successor. Ward served as UW–Madison chancellor from 1993 to 2000, and then led the American Council on Education (ACE) in Washington, D.C., for seven years.

Martin’s permanent replacement is expected to be named by summer 2012. The leadership transition is not expected to affect day-to-day life for students or cause changes to campus academics or student services.

The Wisconsin Idea

Go Big Read Begins Third Year

Go Big Read, UW–Madison’s common-reading program, has thousands of people reading, talking, and sharing their reactions and opinions. The program engages members of the campus community and beyond in a shared, academically focused reading experience.

This year’s book choice is *Enrique’s Journey* by Sonia Nazario. You and your student — along with other students, faculty, staff, and community members — are invited to participate by reading the selected book and taking part in classroom discussions and campus events.

For more information about the program visit www.gobigread.wisc.edu.

Keep Up With Campus News

Stay on top of the steady flow of news and announcements related to campus life by checking out these options:

- On the Web: Bookmark UW–Madison’s official news page at www.news.wisc.edu for daily updates.
- Facebook: You can also “Like” us on Facebook by searching for UW–Madison Parent Program or University of Wisconsin–Madison.
- Twitter: Get the news, and send us your comments and questions, at www.twitter.com/UWMadisonNews. You can also explore the network of Campus Twitterers at twitter.com/UWMadisonNews/lists.

Did You Know?

Students: Sign up for WiscAlerts

WiscAlerts, UW–Madison’s emergency notification system (launched in April 2008), provides important information via e-mail, text message, and — for campus employees — phone.



All students are encouraged to enroll in WiscAlerts–Text, the text-messaging service of the system. To do so, students can log in to the My UW Portal (my.wisc.edu), click on the Service tab, and look for the WiscAlerts logo.

Registration is simple and takes just a few moments. The service is free, but students must have a phone or plan that can receive text messages, and students will be responsible for normal SMS charges from their cellular provider. WiscAlerts–Text is reserved for the highest level of emergency and is never used for advertisements or spam.

Although UW–Madison parents are not eligible to receive text messages, the Parent Program will send an update in the event of an emergency to parents with a valid e-mail address.



Key Dates

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Key Dates

August 8
First-quarter housing payment due

August 11
Webchat for first-year parents, noon–1 p.m.

August 27-28
Sellery and Ogg move-in

August 30–31
All other University Res Halls move-in

September 2
Classes begin

September 15
Last day to drop courses or withdraw without notation on transcript

September 16
Last day to add courses

September 23
Tuition due without a \$100 late-payment fee

October 17
Second-quarter housing payment due

November 4-6
Parents' Weekend

Updates: Tuition, Madison Initiative

Tuition at UW System schools is expected to rise by 5.5 percent for the 2011–12 academic year, the UW System Board of Regents has announced.

The increase is slightly above the overall system rate because UW–Madison is implementing a surcharge called the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates to pay for more professors, increase financial aid, and improve student services. So far, the Madison Initiative has led to the authorization to hire about 79 faculty and 54 projects that will benefit undergraduate education.

UW–Madison's tuition will remain among the low-est in the Big Ten conference, according to UW System figures. For more information on tuition rates, visit registrar.wisc.edu/tuition_&_fees.htm.

Sending Your Student Mail/Packages

We often get questions asking the best way to send mail or packages to your student. Mail should be addressed to your student as follows:

Name
Residence Hall
Floor, Room Number
Street Address
City, State, Zip

Mail will be delivered to the front desk of your student's residence hall, where it will be sorted and placed into your student's mailbox. Students can pick up regular mail from their mailbox using their room key. If a package is sent, your student will receive a notification of its arrival and can pick up the package at the front desk with a valid student ID.

You can also send your student a complimentary e-postcard by visiting the Parent Program website, www.parent.wisc.edu. It's a great way to let your student know that you are thinking of him or her!

Advice for Off-Campus Moving Day

Every year on August 14 and 15 — when rental leases expire — thousands of students move in and out of their campus-area apartments and houses. Here are some ideas for supporting your student during this transition.

- Students appreciate the help of friends and family. Offer to provide a vehicle or storage, lend a helping hand, or both.
- Be patient and work cooperatively with the property owner, management-company staff, and future neighbors to help the process go as smoothly as possible. Anticipate that some unexpected circumstances may arise.
- Stay positive about your student's housing decision. Expect that your student's new home may not be perfect; downtown Madison properties range from one to 150 years old. In addition, it's likely that someone has just moved out of the residence your student is moving into and may not have left the residence in the condition you were expecting.
- Encourage your student to work cooperatively with his or her property owner or management company staff, notifying them promptly of any issues. It is most helpful to have your student make this contact, allowing him or her to begin building that relationship.
- Allow enough time for loading and unloading. Ongoing road and building construction projects in the downtown area may affect your timing. For the latest information, visit the Parent Program website, www.parent.wisc.edu.
- Keep property safe and secure by not propping open doors or leaving valuables unattended.
- Finding a place to park and unload can be difficult. Consider putting your cell phone number on your windshield so others can call if you have blocked access. If long-term parking is needed, check posted signs.
- Encourage your student to complete a check-in



form upon move-in and keep a copy for his or her records. Renters should take photos of areas of concern, such as carpet stains or holes in walls. If the property owner or management company does not provide a form, you can download one at the Tenant Resource Center website at www.tenantresourcecenter.org.

- Students should promptly notify property owners of security issues, including problems with outdoor lighting, smoke detectors, and locks on doors and/or windows.

- The city of Madison is pairing with Goodwill Industries and Society of St. Vincent de Paul to put together recycling efforts during move-out/move-in dates. Specific drop-off sites, hours, accepted items, and more details can be found at www.cityofmadison.com/streets. Click on the moving days page.

For more information about the overall move-in process and the resources listed above, contact the Parent Program.

Career Corner

Student jobs can enhance the college experience

Working a part-time job often proves to be a very important and beneficial part of student life, both financially and for learning valuable time-management skills. In fact, studies have shown that students who have a job while taking classes receive higher grades because they learn how to effectively budget their time.

Many campus positions can be scheduled around a student's class schedule with a reasonable time commitment; in fact, University Housing has positions available in which students work as few as seven hours each week.

Whether working in a residence hall, food service line, office setting, or a position related to an academic interest, student employment can enhance the college experience. Not only do part-time jobs and internships serve as an outlet for students to get involved, gain leadership skills, and prepare for future careers, they also can serve as a great way to meet new friends and create a social network.

In addition to the UW Student Job Center, another helpful resource is Career Services. Each school or college has a Career Services office, which features resume workshops, career fair information, and individual career-counseling appoint-

ments. Regardless of a student's year in school, it is never too early to start preparing resumes, practice interviewing, and looking for jobs or internships.



Many campus divisions recruit summer interns during the summer months, so encourage your student to begin job hunting today. For more information about student employment, and for a complete listing of on- and off-campus positions, visit the UW Student Job Center, www.jobcenter.wisc.edu, or the University Housing websites. Encourage your student to connect with Career Services for jobs and internships within the Madison community.

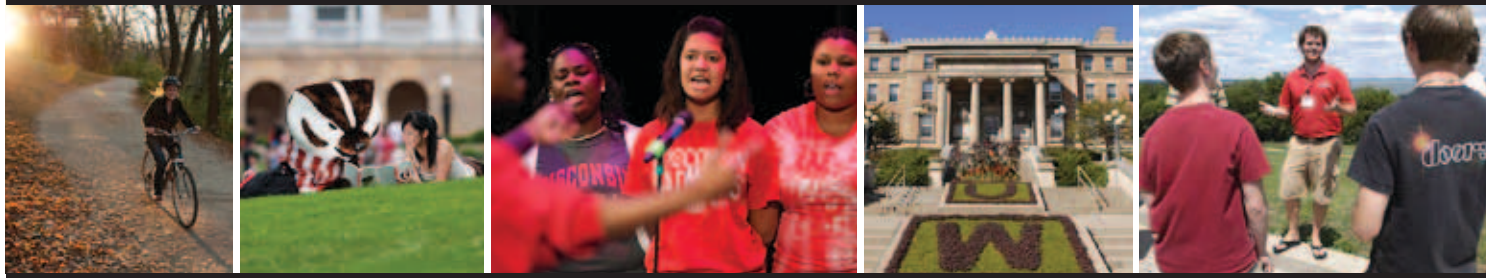
Fall Career and Internship Fair

Thursday, September 15

4:30–8 p.m.

Kohl Center

All UW–Madison students are invited to attend this fair. Your student can visit www.lssaa.wisc.edu/careers to register and find important tips.



UW–Madison Day at the Wisconsin State Fair

UW–Madison’s long history of service and outreach will be celebrated at the Wisconsin State Fair on August 10. Join Bucky Badger, the UW Marching Band, and alumni from around the world on Central Mall for science demonstrations, musical performances, athletic contests, and samples of products developed at the university.



Your visit to the State Fair can also help others. To benefit Milwaukee-area children in need of supplies for a successful school year, UW–Madison is sponsoring a school-supplies drive. Simply bring a new, unopened school supply to a State Fair admissions gate, and you’ll receive a voucher for \$5 off a Midway “Ride All Day” wristband (while supplies last). One discount per item donated.

For more information, including a list of school supplies, visit www.wistatefair.com.

Give a Gift of the Arts

This year you can give your student a gift of the arts and save more than 25 percent off regular UW student prices. Students, parents or family members can purchase an All Arts Card, which entitles a student to attend campus arts performances for a discounted price.

For only \$70, the card may be redeemed for eight UW performances, which can be selected during one semester or throughout the year. The card may be used for University Theater, Wisconsin Union Theater, UW Dance, and University Opera performances.

The card is a great value for students who need to see performances for class. Students may also use the card to bring a parent along to a performance.

An All Arts Card may be purchased through the Campus Arts Ticketing office by phone at 608-265-ARTS (2787) or online at www.arts.wisc.edu.

Textbook Costs

Students can find out about textbooks and other materials they will need for enrolled classes, or classes they’re considering taking, from a number of resources:

- Student Center on My UW (my.wisc.edu): Textbooks are listed on a student’s enrolled-class list and on the Class Search.
- Campus-area bookstores.
- Instructor e-mail messages sent shortly before classes begin: Some instructors will e-mail the syllabus to enrolled students, which may list course materials and required textbooks.

Textbooks can be expensive. See below for some cost-saving alternatives. Students should be sure to purchase the correct textbook edition. The international Standard Book Number (ISBN), the 10-digit number that uniquely identifies books published internationally, is included in the Student Center Textbooks listing, if the instructor has provided it.

- Look early for used copies (sources include ASM Textbook Swap and local bookstores that buy back textbooks).
- Shop at an online marketplace, such as Amazon, eBay, or Exchange Hut. Please note that these are private companies not affiliated with or endorsed by UW–Madison.
- Consider renting through a local bookstore or an online textbook rental site. (Do a Google search online for “textbook rental.”)
- With support from the UW Foundation Parent Fund, campus libraries keep copies of high-cost textbooks on reserve. Check the UW libraries website “Course Reserves” section: www.library.wisc.edu.

Students may also be required to purchase course packets, lab equipment, and/or art materials. Those items are available at campus or local stores.

For more information and advice, visit registrar.wisc.edu/textbook_information_students.htm.

The First-Year Experience

Wisconsin Welcome

Wisconsin Welcome, scheduled for August 30 through September 15, is the perfect way for your student to become familiar with campus traditions, meet new people, and rekindle friendships made during SOAR. Designed for both new and returning students, it offers a chance to get lingering questions answered, learn about academics, find one's way around campus, learn about Wisconsin history and culture, and discover all the campus has to offer. Among hundreds of events, your student can attend the Chancellor's Convocation on September 1, academic orientations, a Student Resource Fair, a New Student Night at the Overture Center featuring local and national performing acts, an introduction to the UW's Fifth Quarter, and a traditional tailgate. Students can visit www.newstudent.wisc.edu/wiwelcome to create a personalized calendar of activities.



It's Time to Move In

Campus will be buzzing with activity in late August when thousands of UW–Madison students will move into the residence halls. Move-in for Sellery and Ogg Halls will take place the weekend of August 27 and 28, and move-in for all other residence halls will occur August 30 and 31.

Although the process may seem overwhelming, the University Housing staff does everything it can to make the transition as smooth as possible. Residents are scheduled to arrive during a two-day period, divided by floors within the same hall. "Badger Buddies" will be on hand to help students move belongings and set up lofts.

During the second week of August, an e-mail will be sent to your student's WiscMail account. It will include information on where to check in, the unloading process, parking, and where to ship belongings.

Students who have been hired for housing jobs can move into residence halls on August 28.

Here are a few tips and resources to ease the move-in process:

- Make sure funds have been deposited to your student's Wiscard account. To make an online deposit, visit www.wiscard.wisc.edu.
- Consider investing in a renter's insurance policy to protect your student's belongings.
- Although residence hall rooms have lockable desk drawers, remember to bring your own lock.
- If you need assistance moving your student into the residence hall or a place for storage, contact Lazybones at 608-222-4475 for information.

Parents' Weekend: November 4–6

Parents' Weekend, hosted by the Wisconsin Alumni Association and scheduled for November 4–6, is an opportunity for parents to visit campus and participate in activities that are part of the student experience. Parents are encouraged to develop their connections to the university by exploring the campus; asking questions; learning about opportunities; connecting with other parents, staff, and faculty; and attending a Wisconsin football game against Purdue.

The Parents' Weekend package includes special lectures, a question-and-answer session featuring a panel of campus experts, a Badger Huddle tailgate ticket, and a football ticket.

After the sessions on Friday, November 4, join the Parent Program for a parent social featuring opportunities to talk to deans, directors, and parent program staff while enjoying our famous Babcock ice cream.

For online registration and more information, including accommodations, visit www.uwalumni.com/parentsweekend.

Web Chat for Parents of New Students

If you are the parent of a new student, you'll want to mark Thursday, August 11, from noon–1 p.m., on your calendar. The Parent Program will be hosting a special Web chat to help answer questions about your student's initial transition to campus life. If you need a refresher after completing your sessions at SOAR — or other questions have come to mind — this lunch hour chat is for you. Topics will include housing move-in, homesickness, academics, health and safety, and financial aid. To sign in, and for more information, visit www.parent.wisc.edu.

Talk Like a Badger

If you feel like your student is speaking an entirely different language, this UW vocabulary list can help.

TA. Shout-Outs. ASM. Langdon. Huh?

When your student first starts sprinkling these terms — and more — during conversations, you may find yourself in need of a translator. Along with other aspects of his or her new environment, your student has been learning a new vocabulary. And while it's become second nature to your student, as a parent, you might need a little help.

The Parent Program asked some students to make a list of commonly used words and phrases, and provide definitions. Now it's time for you to go into study mode and review the list below.

Before you know it, you'll be talking Badger, too.

Academically Speaking

Schools and colleges

UW–Madison is divided into schools and colleges that house various majors and related academic requirements. The largest is the College of Letters & Science, which encompasses more than 21,000 students and 3,000 faculty and staff, and provides foundation courses ranging from math to literature. For the full list, visit www.wisc.edu/academics/schools-and-colleges.php.

Syllabus

A document given out by professors at the beginning of each semester, a syllabus outlines class content, expectations, and grading scale, and usually contains a detailed lecture, reading, and exam schedule. It also provides contact information for the professors and teaching assistants, and office hours.

TA

An abbreviation for teaching assistant. Usually, teaching assistants lead class discussions and exam reviews outside of the class lectures, grade exams and papers, and serve as a resource for questions and class support. They are employed by the university, and are graduate students who are usually working toward a PhD.

Office hours

Set times when students are able to meet with professors or TAs outside of class. Typically, office hours are available one or two days a week for walk-in appointments. Many professors also allow students to schedule appointments outside of office hours.

Course numbers

The number for a course denotes its difficulty level. In general, courses that end with "100" or "200" are elementary-level classes, although some 200-level courses are intermediate. Usually, 300-level courses are intermediate difficulty and courses labeled "400" or above are advanced.

Midterms and finals

Campus libraries are filled to the brim during these exam times each semester. For many classes, midterm exams are held one-third and two-thirds (or five and ten weeks) into the semester. After classes end, finals week begins.

WiscMail

UW–Madison's central e-mail system.

Student Center

A section of the UW's website, which allows students to schedule classes, check grades and graduation requirements, and pay tuition bills.

Center for Leadership and Involvement

The CFLI offers students a variety of leadership programs, while also encouraging them to get involved in the campus community through student organizations, intramural sports, and volunteer activities.

Student Traditions

Homecoming

A week of events — typically in October — that celebrates everything Badger. A Homecoming Committee, with support from the Wisconsin Alumni Association, coordinates special events that honor UW traditions; any proceeds from events benefit the Dean of Students Crisis Loan fund, which helps students with financial burdens. The week is capped off by a parade down State Street on Friday afternoon, with the Homecoming football game on Saturday.

The *Badger Herald* and the *Daily Cardinal*

As the only campus in the United States with two student-run, daily newspapers, the UW offers plenty of opportunities for aspiring journalists. Founded in 1892, the *Daily Cardinal* is the sixth-oldest student paper in the country. The *Badger Herald* was founded in 1969. The papers print 10,000 to 15,000 copies per day.

Shout-Outs

A popular feature of the *Badger Herald*, "shout-outs" is a section of the paper in which students post humorous (usually) quips about school, sports, events, and everyday life. Students identify things that are funny, annoying, or upsetting and post an SO (shout-out) if he or she thinks that the rest of the student body can relate to it. For example: "SO to Biddy Martin for the snow day — the Bascom Hill snowball fight was the highlight of my winter."

WSUM (91.7 FM)

WSUM is the UW's student radio station. Begun in 1952, the station's programming includes a variety of music genres, sports broadcasts, and talk shows.

Wisconsin Welcome

Designed to welcome new students and welcome back returning students to campus, Wisconsin Welcome includes the Chancellor's Convocation and many activities designed to encourage first-year students to meet one another, learn about academics, find their way around campus, and more. Campuswide events begin after the first day of class and continue through the first weekend of the semester.

ASM (Associated Students of Madison)

Founded in 1994, ASM is the official student government of the UW. ASM's initiatives include securing Madison Metro bus passes for students, posting professor course evaluations online, creating a 24-hour library, and implementing a textbook swap program.

Badger Football Game Days

Arguably the most exciting Saturdays of the year for students, home football games at the UW provide an electrifying atmosphere. Around 80,000 people, including 14,000 students, converge on Camp Randall Stadium to watch the Badgers take the field. Popular tailgating spots are found near Regent Street, Randall Avenue, and Breese Terrace.

“Jump Around”

Since 1998, UW home football games include a tradition of playing the hip-hop song “Jump Around” by House of Pain. The entire student section, joined by others in the stadium, jumps up and down to the first verse while also chanting out the lyrics. The tradition is one of the most recognizable in all of college football.

“Varsity”

A song that is played at every home Badger game — and other places where Badgers gather — it is viewed as one of the UW’s most powerful traditions. When played, Badger fans stand, wrap their arms around the people next to them, and sway while singing the lyrics.

Fifth Quarter

An event that takes place after every home football game. The UW Marching Band takes the field and plays songs such as “On, Wisconsin!” and “You’ve Said It All,” while students perform choreographed dances in the stands.

All-Campus Party

A weeklong spring event sponsored by the Wisconsin Alumni Association and the Wisconsin Alumni Student Board. The celebration includes free events such as “Wear Red, Get Fed,” “Breakfast with Bucky,” “All-Campus Idol” (a singing competition), and a kickball tournament. All-Campus Party is the largest non-alcoholic celebration in the nation.

Student Housing

Southeast Residence Halls

A group of residence halls located in the southeast region of campus, near the Kohl Center and State Street. The cluster includes Barnard Hall, Chadbourne Hall, Merit House, Ogg Hall, Sellery Hall, Smith Hall, Susan B. Davis House, and Witte Hall.

Lakeshore Residence Halls

A group of residence halls located in the northwest region of campus, along the shores of Lake Mendota and a short walk from the UW Hospital. The cluster includes Adams Hall, Bradley Hall, Cole Hall, Elizabeth Waters Hall, Friedrich Hall, Kronshage Hall, Slichter Hall, Sullivan Hall, and Tripp Hall.

Residence Hall Eating Areas

Both the Southeast and Lakeshore residence halls have their own dining areas — Gordon Commons in the Southeast and Holt Commons on the Lakeshore. Both feature a cafeteria-style dining room (Pop’s Club in Southeast, Frank’s Place in Lakeshore) with a wide selection of choices, as well as made-to-order items. Students can go online to check the day’s menu or place an order. Each also features a mini grocery store (Ed’s Express in Southeast, Carson’s Carryout in Lakeshore).

RLCs and House Fellows

A residence life coordinator (RLC) is a full-time university staff member who lives and works in a residence hall and helps with academic and personal concerns. A house fellow is an older (junior or senior) student who lives in a residence hall and offers information and experience.

Wiscard

The UW’s student identification card that acts as a campus dining debit card, library card, workout facility membership card, and more.

Popular Places

Library Mall

Located at the beginning of State Street, Library Mall encompasses Memorial Library, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and Memorial Union. It is often the site of large campus gatherings and events.

Bascom Hill

Perhaps the most recognizable area on campus, Bascom Hill is also one of the most traversed stretches of sidewalk at the UW. Flanked by the Law School, the School of Education, and other buildings, the hill is a mecca for sunbathers and flying Frisbees on warm days.

East Campus Mall

One of the newer areas on campus, East Campus Mall begins at the Kohl Center, runs by the Southeast dining halls, continues past the University Square and Lucky apartment building before ending at Library Mall. East Campus Mall is also home to University Health Services, ASM student government, and a number of other UW-sponsored services.

The Rathskeller

A popular gathering spot for students and faculty, Der Rathskeller is a German-themed, pub-style bar and restaurant located in Memorial Union. Featuring a fifteen-foot television screen, the location attracts a crowd for viewing big sporting events and on occasion is a venue for live bands.

Lakeshore Path

Running from Memorial Union to the Lakeshore Residence Halls, and continuing on to Picnic Point, the Lakeshore Path is one of the more scenic and well-traversed walking paths in all of Madison.

Campus Buildings

Memorial Union and Union Terrace

One of the UW’s two student unions, Memorial Union is located on the shores of Lake Mendota. It’s home to eating places, a coffee shop, banquet halls, a theater, and more. Union Terrace, an outdoor gathering spot along the water, draws crowds enjoying pleasant weather and live music.

Union South

Opened in April 2011, the new “green” Union South replaced its predecessor on the same site, and features multiple dining options, a climbing wall, a bowling alley, a 350-seat cinema, conference rooms, and a sixty-room hotel.

Grainger Hall

Home to the Wisconsin School of Business, located between Johnson Street and University Avenue.

College Library

Housed in Helen C. White Hall, College Library is a primary study spot for many undergraduates.

Memorial Library

The largest library in Wisconsin and the primary research facility for the humanities and social sciences. It contains more than 3.5 million volumes and more than 1 million people visit it each year.

Bascom Hall

Located at the top of Bascom Hill, Bascom Hall is one of the oldest buildings on campus and home to one of the largest lecture halls and many administrative offices.

Humanities Building

The George L. Mosse Humanities Building, named for a UW scholar of European history, houses the departments of art, history, and music. Built during the era of the Vietnam War protests, the building is designed in the Brutalist style of architecture.

Chazen Museum of Art

Located directly adjacent to the Humanities Building, the Chazen Museum of Art collects and exhibits works of art and offers educational programs related to the arts. The Chazen boasts more than 13,400 works of art, some dating back to 2300 B.C.

Student Activity Center (SAC)

Located on the third and fourth floors of the new University Square building on East Campus Mall, SAC houses ASM's offices, study spaces, a computer center, a student art gallery, and meeting rooms for student organizations.

Campus Neighborhoods

Langdon

This neighborhood on the eastern end of campus, directly adjacent to State Street and along Lake Mendota, features many of the UW's fraternities and sororities. There are 33 fraternities and 20 sororities; approximately 10 percent of the student body participates in Greek life. Last year, the Greek community donated \$50,000 to local and national charities and 10,000 services hours to the community.

Regent

One of the busiest drags on the southern end of the campus, the Regent Street area has seemingly endless amounts of student housing, while also featuring bars and restaurants. Running past Camp Randall Stadium, the street really picks up energy on Badger football game days.

State Street

One of the most-traversed and well-known areas near campus, State Street is a six-block, pedestrian-only mall that features more than 200 shops and stores, and more than 60 restaurants with a range of cuisine. State Street connects campus to the State Capitol.

Athletics

SERF

The Southeast Recreational Facility, better known as the SERF, is the primary workout facility for students living on the eastern edge of campus. It features an indoor track, four multipurpose gymnasiums, ten racquetball courts, a pool, a weight room, and multiple cardio and fitness centers.

The Nat

The Nat — or the Natatorium — on the western edge of campus is home to the UW's official swimming team racing pool, four multipurpose gymnasiums, five racquetball courts, a weight room, and various cardio and fitness centers.

Shell

Located directly next to Camp Randall Stadium, the Shell is the UW's official indoor track-and-field facility. It also features four basketball courts, an exercise area, and an ice rink, which are available for student use.

Camp Randall Stadium

Home to the Badger football team, the stadium is located on the southern edge of campus and seats just over 80,000 spectators. It is the oldest and fourth-largest football stadium in the Big Ten. However, Camp Randall has also been used for concerts and outdoor hockey games, with both the men's and women's teams taking the ice in 2010.

Kohl Center

Built in 1998, the Kohl Center on the southeastern edge of campus is home to the men's and women's basketball and hockey teams, and seats just over 17,000 and 15,000 for the two sports, respectively. It is also a popular entertainment venue.

Bucky Badger

The UW's official mascot, Bucky Badger was first drawn in 1940 by professional illustrator Art Evans. Bucky's likeness earned a copyright on October 2, 1940. The nickname "Badgers" was borrowed from the state of Wisconsin, which was dubbed the "Badger State." The name was associated with lead miners in the 1820s who, without shelter in the winter, had to "live like Badgers" in tunnels burrowed into hillsides.

Community Events

Dane County Farmers' Market

Held on the Capitol Square in downtown Madison on Saturdays from mid-April to early November, it is thought to be the largest producer-only farmers' market in the country. About 150 vendors line the Square, offering fruits and vegetables, flowers, cheese, bakery items, and specialty products — all produced in Wisconsin.

Maxwell Street Days

Organized by the Greater State Street Business Association, this annual summer event provides outdoor sidewalk sales, food, and music to thousands of attendees. Started in 1975 by a State Street clothing store, the event is named after an outdoor market in Chicago.

Mifflin Street Block Party

First held in 1969 as a street protest about the Vietnam War, this annual outdoor celebration with live music is typically held on the first Saturday in May along Mifflin Street. The Division of Student Life provides safety information for student attendees.

Freakfest

An annual Halloween celebration for which thousands of students and out-of-towners dress up in costumes and head to State Street for costume competitions and live music. The Division of Student Life reminds students about ways to stay safe and make good choices during the celebration.