

From: [Campus Climate Proposal form](#)
To: [Libby Peterek](#); [Carrie Olson](#)
Subject: New submission from Campus Climate Proposals
Date: Thursday, April 21, 2016 3:29:52 PM

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Group name (if applicable):

UW South Madison Partnership & its Community Advisory Board

What is your affiliation with UW-Madison? For group submissions, please respond for main contact.

- Academic Staff
- Faculty

Describe the concept. If already in use here or elsewhere, please indicate this.

Our campus can benefit immediately by making the rich cultural assets in our greater Madison community (i.e., people, organizations, places) more accessible to our students, especially our students of color. We can do so by engaging with members of our communities of color, especially our UW-Madison Alumni of Color, who currently live and work in Madison, many of whom are active in the civic life of our city.

In my role as Manager of Academic Partnerships in the Healthy Campus unit of University Health Services and as a Faculty Associate in the Department of Civil Society and Community Studies in the School of Human Ecology, I have worked with others for over 17 years to foster meaningful connections between campus and the South Madison neighborhoods along the South Park Street corridor. In this capacity, I represent the UW Madison community on the South Metropolitan Planning Council (SMPC).

Recently we celebrated the one-year anniversary of our new University-Community Space: UW South Madison Partnership:
<https://universityrelations.wisc.edu/smp/>

Under the leadership of Everett Mitchell, Director of Community Relations, and [REDACTED] with additional support from the Morgridge Center for Public Service, our new center serves as a culturally resonant, easily accessible physical space for mutually beneficial campus and community connections to grow.

The Partnership Goals:

- Bring together UW-Madison groups and programs that are already working with the South Madison community
- Build, promote, and host community-based learning
- Work with community partners to engage community in a space that is more accessible
- Build on community strengths to create new equitable, mutually-beneficial partnerships for long-term

- positive impact
- Act as a gateway to the greater UW-Madison campus

How would this affect cultural change on campus?

We can build upon the web of existing campus-community partnerships by inviting members of our communities of color, especially our UW Madison Alumni of Color, to join us to in creating new opportunities for students and community members to learn from and with one another. Possibilities include:

- Networking and mentoring relationships, both formal and informal
- Civic engagement projects which address community needs and enable students to connect, reflect and learn about local issues while gaining hands on experience to complement their academic learning
- Promote and link existing cultural events on campus and in the community and create new family-friendly cultural activities which build upon the success of existing highly collaborative campus-community events such as Family Science Night, South Madison International Night and SMPC's Celebrate South Madison Festival
- Explore how to make existing courses more accessible to community residents, such as UW Odyssey Alumni (with a network of 330 plus alumni), to create more rich and engaging learning experiences for all

These types of activities address the immediate need for students of color on our campus to gain supportive relationships with community residents of color who understand their experiences and who are also working to address racial equity issues in our local community. In the near future, the UW South Madison Partnership can help create culturally resonant safe spaces for students many of whom are disconnected from their home communities. We can develop better pathways for students of color to become members of our communities of color in both formal and informal ways for mutual benefit. By fostering such connections immediately, our students of color will be more likely to consider our campus and our city "a place to call home."

For new ideas, how would you propose piloting this idea to see if it would work? If the idea is already in use at UW-Madison, how would you propose expanding or altering this program for greater impact?

Members of the UW South Madison Partnership Community Advisory Board are eager to share ideas for building upon the existing set of UW-Madison programs based in South Madison. Members will be invited to form a "working group" to explore new ideas. We will convene sessions with staff from key units on campus, such as the WI Alumni Association, Morgridge Center for Public Service, UW Odyssey Project, Multicultural Student Center and Division of Diversity, Equity & Educational Achievement to explore new ideas. We will convene listening sessions with key minority-led civic organizations such as the Latino Professionals Association, Madison Network of Black Professionals, Women in Focus, 100 Black Men and Justified Anger Coalition. Finally, we will convene listening sessions with students of color and campus staff/advisors who work most closely with students of color to assess student interests, assets and needs, such as CeO, PEOPLE, POSSE and First Wave.

From these sessions, the working group will better understand how we can develop new programming that aligns the interests, assets and needs of community residents and organizations and with those of students. The information collected by the working group will be compiled to create a set of recommendations for the larger Community Advisory Board.

_____ recently mapped existing UW Madison South Madison-based programs which documented an impressive web of connections reaching into our community, especially our communities of color. With additional resources to hire another Graduate Assistant position, another map of minority-led civic and professional organizations will suggest new possibilities.

What resources would be needed to implement your suggestion?

This summer, _____, will recruit and convene the "working group" from among Community Advisory Board members.

50% Project Assistant position for the 2016-17 academic year to work with _____ to: (1) convene listening sessions as described, (2) construct a map of minority-led civic and professional organizations,

Excerpt: "I want students to know that communities of color are "on their side." They can walk, run, take a bus, or drive a car straight down Park Street into the south side to be welcomed, supported, affirmed and believed. There are safe churches, family restaurants and ethnic organizations to remind you of home. We haven't forgotten the trials of young people on the campus or in the community."